

# REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE  
Week ending the 16th November 1895.

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		<b>URIA PAPERS.</b>	
		Nil.	



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
BENGALI.					
Tri-monthly.					
1	"Abodh Bodhini" ...	Calcutta	About 677		
Weekly.					
1	"Banganiyasi" ...	Ditto	" 5,000	9th November 1895.	
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto	" 20,000		
3	"Hitaishi" ...	Ditto	.....		
4	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto	" 4,000	8th	ditto.
5	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto	.....	6th	ditto.
6	"Sahachar" ...	Ditto	About 500	8th	ditto.
7	"Samay" ...	Ditto	" 4,000	9th	ditto.
8	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	" 3,000	4th	ditto.
9	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto	" 800		
Daily					
1	"Banga Vidya Prakashika" ...	Ditto	" 200		
2	"Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika." ...	Ditto	" 200	7th November and 10th to 13th November 1895.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto	" 500	12th and 13th November 1895.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	" 200	7th to 9th and 11th and 12th November 1895.	
5	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto	" 1,000		
HINDI.					
Weekly.					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Ditto	" 800	7th November 1895.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto	" 9,000	11th ditto.	
3	"Uchit Vakta" ...	Ditto	.....		
Daily.					
1	"Dainik Bharat Mitra" ...	Ditto	.....	8th to 10th and 12th November 1895.	
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
1	"Hublul Mateen" ...	Ditto	.....	6th November 1895.	
URDU.					
Weekly.					
1	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide." ...	Ditto	About 400	7th	ditto.
2	"General and Gauhariassi" ...	Ditto	" 300	31st October 1895.	
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura	" 500	1st November 1895.	
2	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria	" 298		
Weekly.					
1	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan	350 to 400	5th November 1895.	
2	"Chinsura Vartavaha" ...	Chinsura	500	3rd	ditto.
3	"Darsak" ...	Ditto	.....	10th	ditto.
4	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	754	8th	ditto.
BENGALI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Ghosak" ...	Khulna	350		
Weekly.					
1	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Murshidabad	280		
2	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore	200	8th November 1895.	
3	"Pratikar" ...	Ditto	603		



No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.	
URIYA.						
ORISSA DIVISION.						
Monthly.						
1	"Brahma " ...	Cuttack ...	.....		Only six copies have been issued since the paper was received in January 1894. Some 200 copies of each issue are said to have been circulated, but no subscribers have been registered.	
2	"Indradhanu " ...	Ditto ...	.....			
3	"Shikshabandhu " ...	Ditto ...	.....			
4	"Utkalprabha " ...	Mayurbhunj ...	3	.....		
Weekly.						
1	"Sambalpur Hitaishini " ...	Bamra in the Central Provinces.	.....	.....	This paper is said to have some circulation in the Division, but the number of subscribers could not be ascertained.	
2	"Samvad Vahika " ...	Balasore ...	190			
3	"Uriya and Navasamvad " ...	Ditto ...	309			
4	"Utkal Dipika " ...	Cuttack ...	412			
HINDI.						
PATNA DIVISION.						
Monthly.						
1	"Bihar Bandhu " ...	Bankipur ...	500			
Weekly.						
1	"Aryavarta " ...	Dinapur ...	1,000			
URDU.						
Weekly.						
1	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch " ...	Bankipur ...	500	24th October 1895.		
2	"Gaya Punch " ...	Gaya ...	400			
3	"Mehre Monawar " ...	Muzaffarpur ...	150			
BENGALI.						
RAJSHAHI DIVISION.						
Weekly.						
1	"Bagura Darpan " ...	Bogra ...	.....	6th November 1895.		
2	"Hindu Ranjika " ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	283			
3	"Rangpur Dikprakash " ...	Kakina, Rangpur ...	300			
HINDI.						
Monthly.						
1	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	150	.....	It is said that 550 copies of the paper are printed each month. Out of this number 150 copies are distributed among the subscribers, and the rest sold to the public at three pies per copy.	
BENGALI.						
DACCA DIVISION.						
Fortnightly.						
1	"Kasipur Nivasi " ...	Kasipur, Barisal ...	280			
Weekly.						
1	"Charu Mihir " ...	Mymensingh ...	900	5th November 1895.		
2	"Dacca Prakash " ...	Dacca ...	450			
3	"Saraswat Patra " ...	Ditto ...	250		9th ditto.	
4	"Vikrampur " ...	Lauhajangha, Dacca ...	500		7th ditto.	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.						
Weekly.						
1	"Dacca Gazette " ...	Dacca ...	500			
BENGALI.						
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.						
Fortnightly.						
1	"Tripura Prakash " ...	Comilla ...	.....			
Weekly.						
1	"Sansodhini " ...	Chittagong ...	120			
BENGALI.						
ASSAM.						
Fortnightly.						
1	"Paridarshak-o-Srihattavasi"	Sylhet ...	.....			







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

*Al Punch* of the 24th October observes that England has gone too far in her anxiety to free the Armenians from the Turkish yoke. Her encouragement has so much emboldened the Armenians that they have not even hesitated to revolt against the Sultan's Government. What does England mean? If she means to free the Armenians by force of arms, let her try to do so, and she will find it to be a hazardous task. If she means to have reforms introduced into the Turkish Government in Armenia, let her help the Sultan in doing so, and ask the Armenians to act with greater calmness and reason.

AL PUNCH,  
Oct. 24th, 1895.

2. The *Sahachar* of the 6th November says that the uncivilised mountain tribes on the north-western frontier of India have from very old times been known for their lawless and predatory habits and believed to be unconquerable. But of late years a remarkable change has come over these people, and the change has become the more marked since the Chitral expedition. The British Government attributes it to the display of prowess made by its troops during the expedition and to its immense resources, which have struck terror into the hearts of these savage mountaineers. But the writer cannot concur in this view. A writer in the *Times* newspaper has probably made a nearer guess at the true cause of the change which has come over the disposition of the frontier tribes. According to that writer, the days are gone when battles could be won by personal valour and strength of the arm. The destructive fire-arms of the present time leave no opportunity for a savage people to win a battle either by the sword or personal valour. In consequence, they have gradually come to realise their position, and have most wisely decided to come and live under the peaceful Government of some civilised power. This tendency had been observed for a long time before the Chitral expedition. The people of Baluchistan and the Waziris of Toki, for example, years before sought the protection of the British Government, and have been living happily and growing in prosperity under kind rulers like Sir Robert Sandeman and Colonel Macaulay. The tribes inhabiting the Khasi Hills on the north-eastern frontier were at one time in a most miserable condition, but since they came under the influence of British civilisation, they have made vast strides towards progress; and there can be little doubt that a few years hence the Khasias will be a happy and contented people. It is therefore little to be wondered at that the tribes inhabiting Chitral and its neighbouring mountains should show a submissive spirit and wish to come under British rule. British occupation of Chitral will actually lose much of its objectionable character if it can help in civilising the Chitralis and their neighbouring tribes.

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1895.

3. The *Hindi Bangavasi* of the 11th November observes that Russia, finding that she has been foiled by England in her attempt to invade India through Afghanistan, is finding out a new route to India. She has made friends with the Shah of Persia, and has induced him to allow a Russian Company to lay a railway in his territory. Russia has thus stolen a march over England.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 11th, 1895.

4. The same paper ascribes the Armenian revolt to England's uncalled for interference with the Sultan in his administration of Armenia.

HINDI BANGAVASI.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

5. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st November writes as follows:—

The panchayets in the Bankura district. Fear of the police prevents all but low and worthless people of a village from accepting the office of panchayet. The poor commission of 9 to 10 per cent., which is paid to the collecting panchayet, is another consideration, which makes every respectable man in a village turn his face against accepting that office. Under the circumstances, it is easy to guess how the villagers fare in respect of the assessment and collection of the chaukidari cess. The sole aim of the collecting panchayet is to raise as large an amount as chaukidari cess as

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 1st, 1895.



he can, because his commission will be proportionately large. The heaviest assessments are made on his enemies, however poor they may be, but his friends, though they may be very rich people, escape with a low assessment. The assessments, again do not become known to the villagers, until the time for collecting the cess arrives.

The chaukidars have to dance constant attendance on the collecting panchayet. If they fail to do so, poor men as they are, they will be completely done for. Some panchayets in the Bankura district have been known to forge the names of their brother panchayets in reports in which they charged their enemies or the servants of such men with being bad characters. A proper enquiry into these cases cannot be expected to be made by the police, who are too apt to forget their duty on receipt of a small bribe. Some Sub-Deputy Magistrate ought to be appointed to conduct these enquiries.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 1st, 1895.

6. The same paper asks for an enquiry into the fate of one Rakhal Misir, a resident of Maliara, in the Bankura district, who suddenly disappeared on the 21st September last. On the day following, a dead body was found floating on the river at Banjora, and was suspected to be the dead body of Rakhal. It is rumoured that it was Rakhal who had shot Babu Hemendralal Goswami, executor of the Maliara Raj Estate, some three years ago. It is also rumoured that Rakhal had not for some time been on good terms with the men of his own party.

CHINSURA  
VARTAVAHA,  
Nov. 3rd, 1895.

A case of suspicious disappearance in the Bankura district.

7. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 3rd November says that about a mile of the road from the Hooghly Railway station to the Hooghly town, that is that part of it, which lies between the late Jiban Babu's garden house and the garden house of the Pathaks, is a dangerous place for passers-by. The road is dimly lighted by the municipal kerosine lamps, which only serve to make darkness visible. There is not a single human habitation on the road side. The road is, moreover, overshadowed by large trees on both sides, and the police constable never pays his visit to this sequestered place. A passer-by, who may have to go to Hooghly late in the evening, has to run great risk in passing along this road. No hackney carriage is to be had for love or money at that hour, and the passer-by has to walk the whole distance on foot. He thus often falls a helpless prey to highwaymen and robbers, who infest the road. In October 1892, a daring attempt was made to rob a postal runner on this road. In Aswin (September) last, a weaver was attacked on this road by a number of highwaymen, and rescued by some passer-by who came immediately after him. Only the other day, that is on the 28th October last, a shop-keeper of the Hooghly Chauk was pursued by a robber, and saved himself by running. The attention of the police authorities should be drawn to the dangers of this road.

SOMPRAKASH,  
Nov. 4th, 1895.

Outrage on female modesty in a religious fair.

8. A correspondent of the *Somprakash* of the 4th November complains of the failure of the authorities to bring to justice badmashes who commit violence on female pilgrims, who come to see the *Ras Jatra* festival, which is every year held in Santipur, in the Nadia district, in this season. The *badmashes* had a very bad time of it during the incumbency of Babu Ram Charan Bose, a former Subdivisional Officer of Ranaghat. The present Subdivisional Officer, Mr. K. C. De. is to be thanked for disallowing lotteries and all sorts of gambling in the fair, which is held in connection with the festival.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

The Kedarpur outrage case in the Mymensingh district.

9. A correspondent of the *Charu Mihir* of the 5th November refers to the Kedarpur outrage case, in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district, a detailed account of which has appeared in the *Sanjivani* of the 9th November (see below, paragraph 13), and wants to know why the property of the accused persons, which was forfeited to Government, has not yet been sold, and who is to be held responsible if the property is damaged or lost. As the accused have again forcibly carried away the girl, the Subdivisional Officer of Tangail is requested to take steps to bring the offenders to justice.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 7th, 1895

Sale of obscene pictures in Calcutta.

10. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 7th November draws the attention of the police authorities to the sale of obscene pictures at the temple of Madan Mohan in Baghbazar and also at the temple at Kalighat. The police has prohibited



the sale of obscene French cards. These pictures are no better, and their sale should be at once put down. It is notorious that the police constables, instead of taking the vendors of these obscene pictures to task, often encourage them in their trade.

11. Chandra Kanta Dev, of Gauhati, Assam, writes in the *Samay* of the 8th November that on the 29th September last a *fracas* took place between the police and the school-boys in Gauhati, in which the latter got the worst of it, and were severely thrashed by the police constables. There were athletic sports held on the said day, in which the boys of the local school took part. One of them, it is alleged by the police, had gone beyond the enclosure marked out for the boys. No such enclosure, however, did exist, and the fact is that a police constable had shoved the boy, and the latter demanding an explanation an altercation ensued, when the Police Sub-Inspector ordered the constables to arrest and beat (*mar mar, dhar dhar*) the school-boys. The school-boys in a fright all fled, and the constables pursued them, threw their batons and sticks at them, threw down one of them into a ditch, and severely thrashed him. It should be noticed that the police constables were not in their uniform and could not, therefore, most probably, be recognised by the school-boys.

Mr. Abdul Muzid, Extra Assistant Commissioner of Gauhati, promised to take the conduct of the police into his consideration. But he went away to Calcutta, assuring the public that he would departmentally investigate the matter. Since then no step has been taken to bring the police to justice.

SAMAY,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

12. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th November has the following:—

Sir Charles Elliott and the police. The Lieutenant-Governor has not been able this year to rejoice, as he did last year, over the convictions of persons who instituted false cases against the police. His Honour says:—

“The Inspector-General of Police would seem to have good ground for his opinion, that there was something like a combined effort made in this district to terrorise the police.”

Again,

“False complaints were encouraged by damaging remarks made by Deputy Magistrates against the police—remarks too often based on mere suspicion.”

Is it not clear that, after these remarks of His Honour, few Deputy Magistrates will have the courage to make any remarks against the police, and that cases against the police will almost in every instance be rejected as false?

The police is notorious for extortion and corruption. Already very few cases are instituted against the police, for people think it prudent not to make any complaint against the police, unless grievously oppressed. If the Magistrates, too, now frown upon complainants against the police, people will have no remedy against police oppression.

It is Sir Charles' policy to rule the empire by brute force. He is therefore encouraging the police in every way, and the result is that there is a large number of convictions in cases sent up by the police, and that complaints against the police are almost in all cases rejected.

Last year a constable of Bhagalpur tried to extort money from some innocent passengers by threatening to *chalan* them as dacoits. This year too certain constables of Bhawanipur did not hesitate to beat a gentleman, and bring a false charge against him. Did it never strike the Lieutenant-Governor that these constables could not have done what they did, if they had not grown bold and reckless by seeing oppressions constantly practised before them by their brethren in the service, and by never having been called to account for their own previous oppressions? The reason why the Deputy Magistrate of Alipore tried so hard to save the Bhawanipur constables will now be clear enough.

Crimes are increasing, murders and dacoities are remaining untraced, innocent persons are rotting in jail through the machinations of the police, and yet the Lieutenant-Governor has nothing but praise for the police. He has warmly praised “the zealous and able administration of the department” If the police is encouraged in this way for sometime, it will become quite arbitrary in its proceedings.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.



SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

13. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th November has the following:—

A case of outrage on a Hindu widow in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district.

We have been shocked to read the contents of a letter which has been written to us by a few respectable gentlemen of Kedarpur, a village in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district. The blood-curdling facts disclosed by the letter are as follow:—There are a number of ruffianly Musalman *Kalus* (oilmen) in Kedarpur. These ruffians forcibly carried away a Hindu widow of fifteen or sixteen years, and committed brutal outrage on her. They were prosecuted, but they did not appear in Court. Warrants were issued against them, but they were not arrested. Their property was forfeited to the State, but it was not sold by public auction, and the accused were allowed to enjoy it as freely as before. In fact, the accused did not make the least attempt to elude the execution of the warrants, and carried on their daily avocations with as much ease and freedom as they used to do before. The local police, willingly or unwillingly, had its eyes shut against all these. It did not dare arrest the accused. This made them all the more bold and daring. And in broad day-light they again carried away the outraged girl, and this time they confined the girl in some place, and she could not be found out. The chastity of women was not safe in this country before the advent of the British. And we had been thinking that two hundred years of British rule in India had made the life, property, and honour of the people quite safe. To our utter disappointment, however, we find that we were wrong in our belief. We find that the property of the people and the chastity of women are not safe in the mufassal, even under the British rule. The offenders are never detected by the police, and are thus more and more emboldened to commit crime. It has become quite impossible for poor men to live in security in the mufassal. The Kedarpur incident makes this quite clear. Here we find a number of ruffians committing a heinous crime with impunity, and the law quite powerless to punish them. Is this the spectacle one must expect to see even in a country under British rule? Will not the Government endeavour to ascertain, to whose fault this prevalence of lawlessness in the country is due?

The Kedarpur letter (written in Bengali) runs as follows:—

Jagannath Mali of Kedarpur-Chandpara is an inoffensive man. He has a silly young widowed daughter of fifteen or sixteen years. In Chandpara there are a number of ruffianly Musalmans, known as Kedarpur *Kalus*, and notorious for their lawless and oppressive conduct towards the village people. They are a terror to their neighbours, who, however, are too weak and helpless to defend themselves against their persecution or to bring them to justice. So they put up with their injuries in silence. In an evil moment these ruffians took a fancy to the simple girl, and one evening, when no one was at home, they caught hold of her in the cowshed, and forcibly carried her away to their place, where they committed a brutal outrage on her chastity. The incident took place on the 7th Sravan 1301 B.S., corresponding to the 22nd July 1894. Five or six days after, the girl was set free. She was found bearing evident marks of brutal injuries on her person. She could not stand erect, and there was no heart, however obdurate, which was not affected by her piteous lamentations. Seven or eight days after this incident took place, Jagannath lodged a complaint at the Criminal Court of Tangail, which ordered warrants to be issued against three of the accused, by name Muddi, Jahu and Nachha. But owing to the incapacity of the local police, the accused have not yet been arrested. They were always before the police, and freely moved about in the village, but the local police had not the courage to execute the warrants against them. The property of the accused was forfeited to the State, but the police could not make bold to take possession of it, and the accused were allowed to enjoy it as freely as before. Thus emboldened, the ruffians committed the second time a more brutal outrage than they did at the first. Soon after the first outrage was committed, and the ruffians were prosecuted, Jagannath sent his daughter away in order to keep her out of the reach of the accused. But last Bhadra (August), his wife having died from snake-bite, he was forced to bring her home, so that she might look after his little children. On the 30th September last the poor girl, in company with another woman, was coming back from the river where she had gone to bathe. In broad day-light she was waylaid by the ruffians, and again forcibly carried away. Where she is now confined nobody



can tell, and there seems to be no likelihood of any one's ever finding out her whereabouts. The incident was soon after its occurrence reported to the police station of Nagarpur, and the Sub-Inspector held an inquiry on the spot. He took down the deposition of eight witnesses in all.

The first witness was the wife of Mahes Mali, with whom the outraged girl had gone out to bathe, and who was accompanying her home. The witness gave the particulars of the incident, and mentioned the names of the ruffians who had carried away the girl.

The second witness was the wife of late Ramganga Sarkar. She deposed to have been an eye-witness of the affair, but in fear of the accused she did not give out all that she knew.

The third witness was Machlem Kalu. He is a leading man in his community. He tried to bring about a reconciliation between Jagannath and the accused, and they agreed to set the girl at liberty on the condition that Jagannath would not press the first case against them, and would not bring another case for the second offence. They, however, subsequently changed their mind and have kept the girl confined.

The fourth witness was Golam Nabi. He deposed that he had seen the accused confine the girl in the house of Jadu Kalu and Akul Kalu. He had asked the accused to set the girl at liberty.

The fifth witness Abdul Gani deposed that he had been present with the fourth witness when the accused confined the girl in the house of Jadu Kalu and Akul Kalu.

The sixth witness Nacharuddin Kalu deposed to have seen the accused pursue the girl and heard them talking about carrying her away by force.

The seventh witness Fajil Kalu corroborated the fourth witness.

The eighth witness Lalaji Shahu deposed to have seen the accused carrying away the girl, but he could not mention the names of the accused.

The deposition of another witness was also taken. This witness was an old beggar woman who had been passing by when the girl was caught by the accused. The girl in fear caught hold of the old woman for self-protection, but the accused beat the woman and carried away the girl by force. There was further evidence of eye-witnesses which Jagannath proposed to produce. But the Sub-Inspector observed that he had got evidence enough for his purpose. He ordered the chaukidars to find out and arrest the accused, and told them that he would come back with the Police Inspector to make a further investigation. Reaching the police-station, however, the Sub-Inspector reported that the girl had gone away with the accused of her own accord. The motive of the Sub-Inspector in making this report is a mystery to all. The only reason that can be assigned for the change of his opinion is that Jagannath being a poor man could not sumptuously entertain and feed him. Jagannath, however, appealed to the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail against the report of the Sub-Inspector and called for a fresh police investigation. The Deputy Magistrate ordered Jagannath to produce evidence to prove his allegation and declined to order a fresh police inquiry.

The letter unfolds a harrowing tale. We ask the Magistrate of Mymensingh, the District Superintendent of Police, and the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail to make an investigation into the case.

14. Referring to Professor Lankester's case in England, the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 12th November observes that

Police oppression in India and in England.

police officers are birds of the same feather all the world over. Police oppression is not rare in England, and Professor Lankester's case shows how even a man of position and respectability has to suffer in the hands of the police if he dare interfere with it in its oppression of helpless individuals. The London police has of late taken to oppressing and blackmailing helpless unfortunates and other innocent women. Professor Lankester interfered with the police, and it at once pounced upon him. He was roughly handled, prosecuted, and then convicted and punished by a Police Magistrate to whom the statement of the police was gospel truth.

If police oppression is not rare in England, it is a matter of every-day occurrence in India. Instances might be multiplied to show how the police in this country is allowed to prosecute the people with impunity—how the police

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 12th, 1895.



authorities are determined to shield their offending subordinates and take them under their protecting wings.

But there is a difference between police oppression in England and police oppression in India. In England the voice of the people is supreme and the offending police will be soon brought to its senses. In India the voice of the executive is supreme, and the opinion of the public is treated with contempt. The English people are the masters of the executive. The Indian people are their slaves. There can be no comparison between India and England.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 1st, 1895.

15. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st November says that Babu Aghore Nath Ghosh, Subordinate Judge of Bankura, who completed his fifty-fifth year only the year before last, has been disallowed further extension of service by the High Court. Babu Aghore Nath is still a strong and able-bodied man and can work hard. His fault is that he cannot dispose of cases as rapidly as the authorities would like him to do; and consequently Government considers him an old man fit to be superannuated. But every Judge who tries cases carefully with a view to do justice to the parties and not simply to clear off his file must be a slow worker. Old and experienced Subordinate Judges, if they are found to possess strength of body and mind after their fifty-fifth year, ought to be retained in the service for five years more.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

16. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th November says that Maulvi Asgar who has recently been posted as a Deputy Magistrate to the Sadar of the Mymensingh district has already made himself notorious for arbitrary conduct. He gained the same notoriety in Tangail when he was a Sub-Deputy Magistrate there some fourteen or fifteen years ago. The following two cases will illustrate the manner in which he is disposing of criminal cases in Mymensingh:—

(1) In the case of *Sulukjan versus Bocha Sekh*, which was heard on the 19th October last, the accused's pleader or mukhtar was not present in court at the time of the examination of the witnesses for the prosecution. The accused's mukhtar appeared after the charge had been framed, and requested the Deputy Magistrate, under section 256 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, to permit him to cross-examine the witnesses. But neither this prayer nor the written prayer to the same effect made by the accused's pleader was granted. The following order was passed on the pleader's application:—"Disallowed—none appeared to cross-examine the witnesses. In this petty case, I do not think it necessary to recall witnesses for cross-examination causing delay." But in this petty case, the accused was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

(2) One Suker Chang had instituted a complaint under section 500 of the Penal Code against one Ujir Bewa. On the 23rd October last, the Deputy Magistrate without summoning the accused dismissed the case under section 203 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and under section 560 ordered the complainant to pay compensation to the accused. And it was not till a mukhtar amused at this order jestingly requested the Deputy Magistrate to levy the compensation and send it by money-order or through the hands of the police to the accused, that the Deputy Magistrate realised the unreasonableness of his order, and withdrew so much of it as related to the paying of compensation.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

17. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 5th November says that the health of both the Judge and the Subordinate Judge of Burdwan has broken down under the pressure of work. The District Judge generally works from 11 A.M. to a late hour in the evening, and he yet fails to clear off his file. During the Puja holidays he kept his Court closed for only twelve days, and then took up criminal appeals and sessions work, and has not yet been able to finish the sessions cases. In fact, he finds little time to take up civil work. The parties to civil suits are therefore seriously inconvenienced by cases being postponed over and over again. The District Judge sometime ago wrote to Government asking for an additional Subordinate Judge, but his prayer was rejected. But it has become quite impossible for one Judge and one Subordinate Judge in their present state of health to cope with the civil work of the district. It is



a short-sighted policy to keep expenditure down by overworking judicial officers. In Hooghly two Subordinate Judges are almost constantly entertained, and at times the services of a third Subordinate Judge are required to clear off the file; besides there is a separate Small Cause Court Judge. In Burdwan there is not even a separate Small Cause Court Judge, but the one Subordinate Judge has to do the Small Cause Court as well as regular work. It is true Babu Rajendra Kumar Bose could cope with the work single-handed; but he had extraordinary tact and aptitude for work, which cannot be expected of every man. Indeed, if Government means to remove the inconveniences of suitors in Burdwan, it should send an additional Subordinate Judge to the place.

18. A Burdwan correspondent of the *Sahachar* of the 6th November says that Mr. Bourdillon's order passed to the pleaders not to enter the rooms of the Commissioner's office where his clerks sit will cause serious inconvenience to pleaders who come to examine witnesses in revenue appeals. The Commissioner has no fixed time for coming to office, and hitherto the pleaders used to wait for him in the clerks' rooms. Henceforth they will have to remain standing in the verandah.

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1895.

19. Mr. Steinberg, Sessions Judge of Rangpur, observes the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 8th November, is in the habit of calling a male witness *sala* (wife's brother) and a female witness *sali* (wife's sister). Of late an old man came to his Court to give evidence. He could not understand the unintelligible Bengali of Mr. Steinberg, for which offence the latter called him *sala* and so furiously upbraided him that the old man in fear could not contain himself and the lower parts of his body got fouled. It is said that the conduct of the Judge has come to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor, and His Honour has demanded an explanation from him. Will Sir Charles Elliott, the great patron of Civilians, have the heart to teach this offending Civilian a lesson? The Lieutenant-Governor is said to be a zealous promoter of purity? Are the dignity and purity of the courts of justice likely to be maintained by such conduct as that of the Sessions Judge of Rangpur? Mr. Steinberg should be at once transferred from Rangpur to the Andaman Islands.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

20. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th November writes as follows:—  
On reading the announcement in the *Englishman* that Mr. Abdur Rahman would be appointed a Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, Babu Surendranath Banerji sent a telegram to the Lieutenant-Governor stating that the appointment of a Barrister instead of a Subordinate Judge as a Judge of that Court would greatly dissatisfy the public, and requesting him to postpone the appointment pending the receipt of a memorial on the subject from the Indian Association. This sorely puzzled His Honour. He saw that preparations were being made for an agitation. With a view to cut short the matter, therefore, he wired in reply that permanent arrangements had already been made regarding the Judgeship. But Babu Surendranath was not the man to be dissuaded from his intended course by this move of the Lieutenant-Governor. The memorial was sent, and His Honour stated in reply that all the arguments urged in it had received His Honour's careful consideration, but that after due deliberation he had thought it proper to appoint "an able Barrister" as a Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, and that he had therefore appointed Mr. Abdur Rahman to that Court.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

It therefore follows that His Honour looks upon Mr. Abdur Rahman as an able Barrister. But how does His Honour know that Mr. Abdur Rahman is an able Barrister? The Judges of the High Court alone can say which Barrister is able and which not? Did His Honour take the opinion of those Judges regarding Mr. Abdur Rahman's merits? If Mr. Abdur Rahman is an able Barrister, how was it that he was not confirmed in the post of Law Reporter to which he had been temporarily appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor? Is it not a fact that Mr. Woodman, the Chief Reporter, complained against him? Is it not also a fact that there was much correspondence on the subject between His Honour and the High Court Judges? Did not the Judges take the power of selecting the Law Reporters into their own hands just after Mr. Abdur Rahman had been removed from his temporary office? Why was the Law Reporter Committee established? The Chief Justice and the Advocate-General are both members of the Law Reporter Committee. Would they not have confirmed Mr. Abdur Rahman in the post if they had considered him an able Barrister? Mr. Abdur



Rahman is a son of the late Nawab Abdul Lateef and a man of breeding and insinuating address. There is nothing to urge against him, except his inefficiency? He is besides the Lieutenant-Governor's man. How was it then that he was not confirmed in the post of Law Reporter, a post the duties of which are easy? This characterisation of Mr. Abdur Rahman as an able Barrister is nothing but an attempt to throw dust in the eyes of the public.

The fact is that the Lieutenant-Governor had for sometime past been trying to provide Mr. Abdur Rahman with a good appointment. He first of all tried to appoint Mr. Abdur Rahman as Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta, but failing in that attempt cast his eyes towards the Calcutta Small Cause Court. His Honour's real intention seems to be to appoint an English Barrister to that Court. But as the appointment at once of an English Barrister to a post which the Subordinate Judges have come to regard as their due would raise a clamour, and as it was also necessary to please Mr. Abdur Rahman, that gentleman was appointed to that post. It is in a manner certain that Mr. Abdur Rahman will not be able to do his work well. The Bengal Government will therefore soon find a pretext for appointing an English Barrister to that Court.

That Mr. Abdur Rahman's appointment was settled beforehand will appear from the correspondence between Mr. Handley and the Bengal Government on the subject of Babu Jadunath Rai's retirement. In his reply to the first letter of the Bengal Government on the subject, Mr. Handley stated that Babu Jadunath was willing to retire, but though not a strong man, he was quite capable of discharging his duties satisfactorily, and he therefore requested that the Babu might be permitted to hold his office for sometime yet. But the reply of the Bengal Government was to the effect that the new Judge would sit immediately after the Puja vacation. Was not then Jadu Babu in a manner removed from his office? Is "willing to retire" the same as "resolved to retire"? Did the tenor of the Chief Judge's letter again indicate that Babu Jadunath had made up his mind to retire? Why was His Honour in such a hurry to appoint Mr. Abdur Rahman—to adorn the Small Cause Court with the mild and steady effulgence of this luminary? Did this bright star threaten to vanish from sore disappointment that His Honour was so eager to provide him with an appointment? Could not Sir Alexander Mackenzie be trusted to appreciate his merits? Were the merits of this "able Barrister" specially revealed to Sir Charles by a dream sent from heaven? Bravo Elliott! Bravo Rahman! The sooner this Elliott play concludes by the offering of a funeral cake and of a farewell address to Sir Charles by his able Barrister the better. The fact that the official correspondence on the subject of the new appointment in the Small Cause Court has come to public notice has displeased His Honour. The people fear him but do not love him. Under these circumstances, the sooner he retires the better. Indeed, we are awaiting that auspicious day.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

21. A correspondent of the same paper, who served at Kotalipara as an agent of the Suhrid Sabha, writes as follows against Maulvi Fazlul Karim, the Subdivisional Officer of Madaripur:—

It would be impossible to exhaust the catalogue of this Deputy Magistrate's scandalous acts. This one man has made the entire subdivision uneasy. It is officers of this type who bring discredit upon British rule. Here is an instance of what this officer is capable of doing with a view to gain his own ends. When I first met him at Kotalipara I had much talk with him about the prevailing distress. The Deputy Magistrate noted down this conversation in his tour book in a shape which would best suit his purposes, and this report of the conversation was afterwards made use of by the Divisional Commissioner to support his own views of the situation. I never found a Subdivisional Officer so anxious to conceal the real truth.

This Deputy Magistrate's native place is close to the Madaripur subdivision, and yet he is not transferred by Government. He told me he was a great favourite with the Divisional Commissioner. This explains the repeated praises of his administration in the *Calcutta Gazette* in spite of his oppressions.

His frequent tours in the mufassal have been found fault with, even by his patron, the Commissioner. What a source of inconvenience these tours are to suitors in his court will appear from the following instances:—

- (1) The case of Babu Jadunath Rai, an inhabitant of Thania, within the Madaripur thana, was heard in six different places, namely,



Kotalipara, Madaripur, Haturia within the Burir Hât outpost, Kanaksar and Sua, some of these places being 40 to 50 miles distant from Madaripur.

- (2) Inhabitants of the Madaripur thana have been wilfully harassed by being tried for failure to register births and deaths, an offence in which the penalty never exceeds a fine of one rupee, at such distant places as Bhedayganj within the Palang thana, and Panchhar within the Sibchar thana. In some of these cases a fine of only four annas has been inflicted, but the journey of the accused to the place of trial and back has cost so much as 5 or 6 rupees.
- (3) Paban Sekh, an inhabitant of a place near Madaripur, was tried at Panchhar, at a distance of 50 miles from his home.
- (4) Wahed Sekh, of the Gopalganj thana, was tried first at Kanaksar, next at Gopalganj, and then at Madaripur.
- (5) A barber of Madaripur was tried for having used a service stamp for his own purposes, first at Madaripur, next at Kanaksar, and lastly at Suagram within the Kotalipara thana.

22. The same paper says that the reply, which Sir Charles Elliott gave to

Want of additional Munsifs.

Babu Surendranath Banerji's interpellation about Munsifs, is quite worthy of His Honour who calls

upon Deputy Magistrates for explanation if they fail to pass a large number of coolies for transportation to Assam. His Honour thinks that the Munsifs cannot clear their files, because they postpone cases. But what judicial officer with a conscience can help postponing cases? The necessity for appointing additional Munsifs has become imperative, for the poor Munsifs are overworked, and suitors are harassed by repeated postponements. The appointment of additional Munsifs will cost Government nothing, for with increase in the number of Munsifs the number of cases, too, will increase, and the additional income will be sufficient to cover the additional expenditure.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

23. The same paper says that the appointment of Munsifs now depends entirely upon the good graces of the Registrar of the High Court. Cannot this evil be remedied?

The appointment of Munsifs.

Why should not Munsifs be selected by a competitive examination like Deputy Magistrates? No one would have anything to say against such a system.

HITAVADI.

24. The same paper says that the enquiry that has been made into the charges against Mr. Heard was no enquiry at all.

Mr. Heard of Deoghur.

So long as Mr. Heard remains in authority at

Deoghur, it would be impossible to prove the charge of his having obtained supplies of provisions without payment. Did it never strike the Government that if the timid and ill-educated people of Deoghur had the courage to appear as complainants against Mr. Heard they would never have borne his oppression so long? Here is the letter which the Editor has written to Babu Surendra Nath Banerji on the subject:—

HITAVADI.

"From—KALIPRASANNA KAVYABISARAD,

*Editor and Proprietor of the "Hitabadi,"*

"To—THE HON'BLE BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJEA.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter enclosing a copy of the communication forwarded to you by the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal. In reply, I beg to say that I am prepared to prove to the letter, all the statements contained in your interpellation which is based upon information derived from the *Hitabadi*, provided an open enquiry is held and Mr. Heard is transferred elsewhere. It must be obvious to the Government that if Mr. Heard is allowed to remain in authority at Deoghur, no body will have the courage to say one word which might imply a reflection upon him. The charges which I have brought are sufficiently grave, and for the sake of the purity of the administration, I pray that the Government will be pleased to comply with my request. The Government itself must be greatly interested in



knowing the whole truth about the matter, and an open enquiry conducted under the conditions suggested by me will set at rest all possible doubts.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

KALIPRASANNA KAVYABISARAD."

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

25. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th November refers to the case in which Mr. Anderson of Messrs. Burn and Company, Howrah, was committed to the Sessions, charged

with causing grievous hurt to a Uriya cooly. Before the Magistrate both the Civil Surgeon and the Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Howrah Hospital where the deceased cooly was treated, deposed that he had died from injuries which might be inflicted by a kick at the deceased's bladder. At the Sessions Court, however, they deposed that in the hospital ticket, in which the nature of the deceased's complaint was entered on his admission, it was written that his injuries were due to the hurt inflicted on his bladder by the fall of an iron-bar. This ticket, however, was not produced before the Magistrate, and no mention of it was made at that time. Strange to say, the ticket was not found at the hospital, but at the house of the Civil Surgeon. One is curious to know how this ticket found its way to the house of the Civil Surgeon.

SANJIVANI.

26. The same paper learns from a correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* that on the 25th October last Mr. Steinberg, Sessions Judge of Rangpur, while taking down the deposition of Khyman, a young girl of fourteen, so far lost his temper that he repeatedly called her *syali* (wife's sister) and even threw his pen at her. At last he grew so much irritated that he asked a peon to pull the witness by the ear (শ্যালীর কান ধুলে দে). In the same case the Sessions Judge had to take down the deposition of an old man, Chaitan by name. This witness was very uncivilly treated by him. He repeatedly threw his pen at him, and so violently pulled him by the hand that he could not contain himself, and had the lower parts of his body fouled. The witness was ordered to leave the box, and the Judge, addressing the pleader for the defence, remarked that he could not understand what the pig said (এই খুয়র কি বলে, তাহা আমি বুঝিতে পারি না). This is the way Mr. Steinberg treats the witnesses.

Mr. Steinberg's conduct is disgraceful. The correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* mentions the names of the witnesses, and gives the particulars in connection with the case in which they were badly treated by the Sessions Judge of Rangpur. The Government should immediately institute an inquiry into the charges brought against Mr. Steinberg. If uncivil Civilians like him are not taken to task, the people will lose their respect for the British Courts of Justice in this country. It is gratifying to learn that Sir Charles Elliott has demanded an explanation from Mr. Steinberg.

SANJIVANI.

27. The same paper understands that the District Superintendent of Police, Rajshahi, going to arrest the students, surrounded the College building with armed constables. Mr. Livingstone, Principal of the College, addressing the students, said that the case was a serious Crown case, and they should not prevent the offenders being arrested. If they offered any resistance or tried to leave their seats, the police would shut the College gate and shoot them. Mr. Livingstone is not known as a learned man, but still the public had some respect for him. He has forfeited that respect by his conduct in the present case. The case is not a Crown case. A private individual and not the Government is the complainant. Is one to think that, in any case where a European is the complainant, the Government and its servants must, as a matter of course, take his side? What right, moreover, had the Police Superintendent to go to arrest the accused, accompanied by armed constables? He had not to deal with a murder or a riot case that he should make a parade of the police force at his disposal. Is everything possible in this country?



28. The same paper notices the Fatwa rape case as follows:—

The Fatwa rape case.

On the 28th September last, Hara Kumari, a blind old beggar woman of fifty-five, was passing by the Fatwa railway station. She was being led by her granddaughter, a child of tender years. One West, a European of fifty-eight, who was in the waiting-room of the station, called to the beggar woman, took her to the waiting-room and there committed a brutal outrage on her chastity. From the deposition of the complainant, it appears that she was at the Fatwa station, when some one called to her to come. She and her grandchild went to the waiting-room where the person, who called, was sitting. The man placed her on her back on a bed and dishonoured her. The connection was full and complete between the man and herself. When she was let go, she was taken to the Station Master whom she told everything. When she was being dishonoured, she heard some one calling out to the accused to let her go. Babu Brij Mohan Singh, the signaller, deposed that, on the day of the said occurrence, he heard sounds of crying and calling out, proceeding from the waiting-room. He went there with two railway servants. One of the lower venetians of the room was opened, and through the opening he saw the accused committing rape on the complainant. The accused was upon the complainant. Their clothes were off the lower parts of the body. The accused was pressing down upon the woman. He told him to desist, but in vain. The woman said she had been dishonoured. Afterwards the woman was taken to the Station Master, and she charged the accused with committing rape on her. The two railway servants who accompanied the signaller, corroborated his evidence, and one of them said that he had heard the complainant, while being dishonoured, calling out “বাপরে জান গিয়া” (Oh! my life is taken away).

West has been acquitted. But our conviction is that he did commit a brutal outrage on the chastity of Hara Kumari. We fancy, the cry of the poor old woman rings in our ears—“বাপরে জান গিয়া”—Oh! I am undone, my life is taken away. Justice has not been done to the poor woman. And in the name of chastity we appeal to every man and woman in Bengal and ask them to have the wrong done to the old beggar woman righted. We ask the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor; in fact, all Government officials to do the poor woman justice.

29. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th November understands that Mr. Westmacott

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

Mr. Westmacott and the Deputy  
Magistrate of Krishnagar.

has strongly censured Babu Mahendra Nath Bhatta-charyya, Deputy Magistrate of Krishnagar, for having admitted to bail a Commissioner of the

Santipur Municipality, who was charged with embezzlement of Municipal money. Everything is possible in Mr. Westmacott.

30. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 10th November cannot under-

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR,  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 10th, 1895.

The *Pioneer* on the light punish-  
ment of a native culprit.

stand why the *Pioneer* should be sorry, because a man in Sirajganj, in the Pabna district, has been sentenced only to four months' imprisonment, and to

a fine of Rs. 20 for kicking another and forcibly extracting some of his teeth. It ought to be a consolation to the *Pioneer* that such light punishments are not the rule, but the exception in India. Take, for instance, the case in which a man has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for stealing a sheaf of grass. Why, moreover, should the *Pioneer* and other papers clamour against the light punishment of one native culprit, when disproportionately light punishments are the rule in the case of all European culprits?

31. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 11th November makes the following com-

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 11th, 1895.

The Howrah case.

ments on the acquittal of Mr. Anderson who was charged with causing grievous hurt to a Uriya cooly at Howrah:—

We are not at all sorry that Mr. Anderson has been acquitted, but still we have to account for the death of the poor Uriya cooly. Mr. Anderson and the deceased worked in the same firm, and it is not at all unlikely that they often met. It is proved that the deceased died from injuries inflicted on his bladder by a kick. In his dying deposition the deceased said that that kick was inflicted by Mr. Anderson, and the latter confessed to his superior officer as well as to the Magistrate that he had kicked the Uriya cooly. What reason had the Sessions



Judge not to believe the confession of the accused? The confession of an accused person is inadmissible as evidence only when it is made to a police officer, or when it is made by a person tired of life, or by one who is labouring under insanity. It cannot be said that the confession of the accused in the case under notice was affected by any such consideration.

There is something more to be said regarding the evidence produced at the Sessions Court. At the Sessions Court a witness deposed that the injuries on the deceased cooly were inflicted by the fall of an iron-bar on his bladder, and the Assistant Surgeon in charge of the hospital where the accused was treated deposed that the ticket in which the details of the accused's injuries were entered on his admission had been found in the Civil Surgeon's house, and that in this ticket it was entered that the deceased's injuries had been inflicted by the fall of an iron-bar. No such evidence, however, was adduced before the Magistrate, and the ticket was not produced there. The Magistrate was satisfied with the evidence produced, which he considered sufficient for the purpose of committing the case to the Sessions. He had no cause to call for the production of the hospital ticket. The non-production of this ticket at the Magistrate's Court and its production at the Sessions Court appear to be somewhat mysterious. How did the ticket find its way to the Civil Surgeon's house? May not one be led to suspect that the Civil Surgeon tampered with the ticket, and that he changed the original one to that which was produced at the Sessions Court? From the deposition of the Magistrate, it appears that the deceased told him that he had been instructed by the *sahib* who took him to the hospital to say to the police that his injuries were due not to the kick of Mr. Anderson, but to the fall of an iron-bar. Why was not this man produced as a witness?

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 11th, 1895.

32. Referring to the strictures made by the High Court on the conduct of Mr. Westmacott in informally submitting an affidavit concerning the Ranaghat kerosine depôt case at a later stage of its trial in the High Court, the same paper observes that the conduct of Mr. Westmacott is unworthy of a high Government functionary like the Commissioner of a Division. No other Commissioner of a Division was ever censured by the High Court in this way. The fair fame of the British Government in India is being tarnished by short-sighted officials like Mr. Westmacott who are never in the habit of considering a question in all its bearings.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 12th, 1895.

33. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 12th November observes that "judicial conviction" is a dangerous thing in India. This conviction is not based upon facts or arguments, it cannot be accounted for, and it not unfrequently leads to miscarriage of justice. Instances can be multiplied. In the notorious Nator case, the Sessions Judge acting upon his "judicial conviction" held the accused guilty. In the same case, the High Court Judges depending upon their "judicial conviction" held one of the accused guilty and the other innocent. In the Tarakessvar will case again, the Sessions Judge of Hooghly declared the will to be forged, while in the High Court it was declared to be genuine. In the Dinapore murder case the same "judicial conviction" came to the rescue of the accused. It was the judicial conviction of the jury that the prisoner was not guilty—why they did not and could not say. The very same thing happened in the Fatwa rape case and the Howrah grievous hurt case. In both these cases the Court, in spite of evidence to the contrary, was "judicially convinced" of the innocence of the accused. In the Rajabala case again, this judicial conviction differed in the case of different Judges. How is, then, one to place one's confidence in the so-called judicial conviction of European Judges in India?

SULABH DAINIK.

34. The same paper observes that Mr. Pope, Sessions Judge of Darjeeling, forestalled the passing of the Jury Bill and cross-questioned the assessors in a case in which a Bhutia was charged with causing grievous hurt to a European. When the Jury Bill will be passed, not only the assessors, but also the jurors will be cross-questioned in this way.

Mr. Pope cross-questioning the assessors.

(d)—Education.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 7th, 1895.

35. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 7th November draws the attention of the authorities to the instances of wrong diagnosis made by Dr. Bomford, as pointed out by the

Dr. Bomford.



*Hitavadi* of the 1st November (see Report on Native Papers for the 9th November, paragraph 31). The Government should demand an explanation from Dr. Bomford. He is not fit to be the Principal of the Medical College.

36. The same paper observes that *Manimanjari* is worthless as a text-book on Sanskrit Grammar, and is not at all fit to be taught in the Sanskrit College. Sanskrit

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 7th, 1895.

Grammar is the key, with which one has to unlock the treasure-house of Sanskrit lore. *Manimanjari* is not that key. There is no want of really good text-books on Sanskrit Grammar, and some one of them should be selected in the place of *Manimanjari*. Those who are the best judges of the merits of a text-book on Sanskrit Grammar, say that *Manimanjari* is a worthless book. Sir Alfred Croft ought in all conscience to abide by their opinion.

37. Referring to the Bengal Government Resolution on the report of the working of the Education Department, the same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor From thanks Sir Alfred Croft for his excellent report. the jobberies and oppression which are now and then perpetrated in the Education Department, it is quite clear that the present Director of Public Instruction is an enemy of the natives.

SULABH DAINIK.

38. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th November writes as follows:—

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

Dr. Bomford. In our last issue we gave some idea of Dr. Bomford's skill as a physician; in this we will show how ill-disposed he is towards the "civil" students, and how partial he is to the boys of the "military" class. In the first place, the difference between the systems of training for the two classes of students is of Government's own making. The "civil" students are required to have passed the First Arts Examination, and have to pay a fee of Rs. 15 at admission; a fee of Rs. 35 for the summer session; another fee of the same amount for the winter session, and a fee of Rs. 6 for lessons in dissection. They have to study medicine for five years, and have to pass examinations in 13 subjects. But the rule is quite different in the case of "military" or, in other words, the European and Eurasian students, who are not required to have passed any University examination, who have to pay no fees, who study four years in all, and have to pass examinations, in fewer subjects than the "civil" students, namely, only 11. The examination rules, too, are different in the case of these two classes of students. But this is what we are not concerned with here.

Everybody who thinks of this difference must admit that the European and Eurasian have greater facilities for acquiring knowledge and for passing examinations than the native students. And yet Dr. Bomford is ill-disposed towards the native, while he is well-disposed towards the European and Eurasian students. Dr. Bomford obtains his means of livelihood from Government. The "military" students too are taught at the expense of Government, and are, besides, his countrymen. If this is not sufficient to create sympathy, we do not know what else there is in the world that can create it.

We should not have referred to this sympathy of Dr. Bomford with the "military" students if it had not been attended with evil results. We should not have found fault with this sympathy if the Doctor had not been ill-disposed towards the native students. We will show to-day why the Doctor's antipathy towards the native students has increased so greatly this year.

Dr. Bomford did not close the College and his office on all the gazetted holidays. He did not close his office, for instance, on the 28th March, the 13th April and the 4th June, which were all gazetted holidays. But this was a hardship to the clerks alone who did not, however, venture to protest lest they should lose their appointments. Encouraged by this, the Doctor notified that the College would not be closed on the 2nd and 3rd July, that is, on the occasion of the *Muharram*. The students were not clerks. They sent a memorial to the Director of Public Instruction through the Principal himself. The poor students did not know then that they would have to suffer grievously for this.

This was too much for the patience of the Principal. He resolved to punish the students for this temerity and impertinence. He summoned them before him and said:—"I am not a bull that I shall be frightened by a red



flag. If you insist upon getting the holidays it will not be well for you. Like Shylock you will have your pound of flesh. But I will not grant you leave when you ask for it on the ground of grandmother's illness, no, not, for a day." The students were cowed down by this, but the Principal's anger did not subside. He tried his best to get the students completely in his power. Under the letter of the Director of Public Instruction, he obtained increased powers in the beginning of September.

The facts which Dr. Bomford communicated to the Director are not quite true. We will try to show afterwards that the Director's letter, No. 4197 to Dr. Bomford, was written to save the latter. That letter states, in one place, that 148 students, who were plucked in the examinations, have left College, and, after a few lines, in another place, that 119 students, who were plucked in the examinations, are reading again. By adding these numbers we obtain a total of 267. It appears, however, from the lists of candidates that 147 students in all went in for the examinations, namely, 112 from the third year class and 35 from the fifth-year class. Two hundred and sixty-seven plucked where only 147 appeared! Will the Director explain this mystery? Here is a problem which would have baffled the combined ingenuity of the English Newton, the French Beaune, and our Indian Subhankar. All this makes us say that the facts that have been communicated to the Director are not quite true.

We are at a loss to understand why an able Director like Sir Alfred Croft should aid in this terrible oppression of students. Who is it that has thrown dust in his eyes? We cannot bring ourselves to believe that he will do an act of injustice from considerations of friendship. How shall we then believe that he will do an injustice to the students with a view to serve his friend when Sir Charles Elliott retires and Sir Alexander Mackenzie assumes office? A rumour is afloat that one of Dr. Bomford's subordinates, Dr. Cunningham, has established great influence with Sir Alfred Croft. Sir Alfred and Dr. Cunningham, it is said, put up together at No. 9, Loudon Street, and Sir Alfred therefore believes whatever Dr. Cunningham chooses to tell him. It is also rumoured that Dr. Bomford, too, one day gave a feast to the Professors at Sir Alfred's house. We, for ourselves, do not believe these rumours. And everybody will see that they are false if this Bomford affair is settled, while yet Sir Charles is in office.

The Doctor's displeasure with the students and his consequent ill-feeling towards them are very briefly sketched here. We will try to point out another time the errors or untruths in the Director's letter, as well as in the new rules. Last time we gave a sufficient idea of Dr. Bomford's skill as a physician; this time we show how likely he is to be actuated by spite; another time we will try to show how unsuitable the rules are.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

Babu Haraprasad Sastri's History of India in English.

39. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th November understands that a revised and corrected edition of Babu Haraprasad Sastri's History of India in English has been published. In the revised edition the mistakes pointed out by this paper have been corrected, but the book still bristles with mistakes and inaccuracies.

SANJIVANI.

40. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has accepted the new regulations of Dr. Bomford, as modified by Sir Alfred Croft, regarding the class examinations in the Medical College. According to these rules, a student, who fails to pass his class examination for two successive years, will not be allowed to attend the lectures. In his Resolution the Lieutenant-Governor observes that in the Medical College the number of students is growing very large. This stands in the way of efficient teaching, and it has become indispensably necessary to reduce the number. The lecture halls are overcrowded, and some steps must be taken to prevent this overcrowding. Under these rules, therefore, even if a student of the fourth-year class fails to pass his class examination for two successive years, he will not be given further opportunity to complete his course of study, and pass the final examination. He will have his prospects completely ruined. He cannot begin afresh any other course of study. He cannot have the means or patience to pass the B.A. examination, and qualify himself as a teacher. He cannot pass the B.L. examination and practise law. He will be fit for no profession. To prevent overcrowding, a less objectionable



method might be adopted. The Medical College authorities might lay it down as a rule that they would admit only a fixed number of students and no more. But to admit a student to the College, to allow him to study for two or three years, to take his fee for that period, and then to strike his name off the College rolls—this, to say the least of it, is preposterous. It is much more preposterous to strike out the name of a student who has passed the University examination, but for some reason or other, unfortunately fails to pass his class examination.

41. The same paper complains that the pay as fixed by the Government of Sir Charles Elliott for passed Veterinary Surgeons in Bengal is too inadequate to induce educated young men to study the veterinary science. In Bengal, a Veterinary Surgeon in Government employ will have to begin service with a pay of Rs. 15 a month rising to Rs. 40. He will be considered as a ministerial servant, and will not be entitled to a pension. In Bombay and Lahore, a Veterinary Surgeon draws a pay of Rs. 100 to Rs. 175 a month, and is also entitled to a pension when promoted to a higher grade. Why this difference between a Veterinary Surgeon in Bengal and a Veterinary Surgeon in Bombay or Lahore? The Government should raise the pay of the Bengal Veterinary Surgeons, and in that case it is at liberty to raise the standard and the period of study. Otherwise the object of establishing veterinary schools in Bengal will not be fulfilled.

SANJIVAN,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

42. The percentage system of the Calcutta University, observes the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 9th November, is doing greater harm than good. The system should be either abolished, or, if still kept in force, greatly modified. The modification should take the following form:—

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

In the first place, if a student falls ill, he should on the presentation of a medical certificate be marked present for the number of days for which he is forced to remain absent on account of illness. In Government offices half pay is granted to an officer on sick leave. A student should be marked present at least for half the days for which he is forced to stay away on account of illness.

In the second place, in the B.A. classes, if a student reading in the B course class gets himself transferred to the A course class, the number of lectures he attends in the B course class should be counted along with the number of lectures he subsequently attends in the A course class. The same method should, of course, be also followed when a student gets himself transferred from the A course to the B course class.

The best thing to do will, however, be to do away with the system altogether. It may be said that if the system is altogether done away with, few students will attend the class lectures. Should this happen, the best thing to do will be to send up only such students for examinations as would be certified by their teachers as having regularly attended class lectures, and as being satisfactorily well up in their studies.

It often takes place in a school or college, that while a large number of students attend lectures on a particular subject, very few attend lectures on a different subject, and yet get themselves marked present by proxy. This stands in the way of maintaining discipline in the schools and colleges. Instead of keeping up the percentage system, it should be made a rule that no student, who is not favourably certified by his class teachers, should be sent up for examinations.

SULABH DAINIK.

43. The same paper understands that Dr. Martin, Inspector of Schools, Rajshahi and Burdwan Circle, has recommended the discontinuance of Government aid to the Konnagar School, in the Hooghly district, on the ground that Government aid is granted to the Chatra School, and it need not be granted to another in its immediate vicinity. This is the man, who is to become the Director of Public Instruction! The Konnagar School was established immediately after the Sepoy Mutiny, and since then it is receiving Government aid. It is to be hoped that Sir Alfred Croft will not accept the extremely unreasonable proposal of Dr. Martin.

Proposed discontinuance of Government aid to a mufassal school.



SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 11th, 1895.

44. Referring to the Resolution published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, in which the Lieutenant-Governor accepts the rules about class examinations in the Medical College as modified by Dr. Bomford's new rules. Sir Alfred Croft, the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 11th November observes that what a European says is gospel truth to Sir Charles Elliott. No man of sense could have given his sanction to Dr. Bomford's rules. If it was necessary, as the Lieutenant-Governor says, that overcrowding should be checked in the lecture halls of the Medical College, the authorities might make it a rule that they should admit to the College a fixed number of students, and no more. The present rules will ruin the prospects of many advanced students of the Medical College. Sir Charles Elliott has been known as a friend of the students. Has he by his present act proved himself worthy of that title?

SULABH DAINIK.

45. The same paper does not agree with the Lieutenant-Governor in his praise of Sir Alfred Croft in the Resolution on the administration of the Education Department. Sir Alfred Croft has introduced many changes in the Education Department. It is at any rate gratifying to see that he and his chief are pulling well at the fag-end of the latter's rule.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

46. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th November says that though cholera has been raging in the Jamalpur subdivision of the Mymensingh district for the last two months, the District Board has taken no steps to check the epidemic beyond sending a doctor to the villages in the Dewanganj thana. The Subdivisional Officer and the local municipal authorities have been doing their best to collect subscriptions for rendering medical help to the suffering people within the municipal area of Jamalpur, but not with much success. With the subscriptions which have been collected only two Civil Hospital Assistants have been appointed, but the want of proper medicines is being greatly felt. It is hoped Government will take immediate steps to alleviate the sufferings of the Jamalpur people.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 7th, 1895.

47. There is not, says the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 7th November, a more hasty man than Sir Charles Elliott. He takes great pleasure in persisting in his mistaken policy. He has got the Drainage Act passed. And without waiting for the final sanction of the Governor-General in Council, he has issued a circular instructing the Commissioners of Divisions to enjoin the District Magistrates to lose no time in undertaking drainage works. He has advised the Magistrates to take up, as a beginning, only such works as would not cost much. He also gives a provisional list of works to be undertaken at once. Among these is the dredging of the Muga khal in the Hooghly district. To improve the sanitary condition of this part of the district, however, the best thing to do is to join the Saraswati with the Kunti.

Sir Charles is soon going away, but it is his sincerest wish to see the results, so far as that is possible, of the working of his favourite measure. He cannot bear the idea that the measure, which he has passed in the teeth of public opposition, will be enforced by another man and that he will have no hand in its administration. This is the reason why he has issued the circular.

But the issuing of the circular will not avail much. It will take time to give effect to it. Does Sir Charles Elliott think Sir Alexander Mackenzie a fool that he cannot entrust him with the task of administering the Drainage Act? Let Sir Charles Elliott think of what concerns him most at present. Let him try his best to get a Musalman address. For its sake he has made Mr. Abdur Rahman a Judge of the Small Cause Court. The drainage circular will not please the Musalmans.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

48. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th November publishes a complaint filed by one Jogendra Chandra Mukerji, a contractor, in the Court of the Subordinate Judge of the 24-Parganas, which contains some serious charges against a Commissioner of the Calcutta Municipality.



49. The *Samay* of the 8th November complains that Koyla Ghat, on the bank of the Hooghly in Calcutta, has proved a source of danger to a large number of bathers who generally resort to that place. There is a jetty in Koyla Ghat, and the bed of the river in the vicinity of the jetty is now and then dredged, in order to allow steamers and sailing vessels to have sufficient depth of water to anchor in near the jetty. The bathers, quite unaware of this fact, sometimes unwittingly allow themselves to go out of their depth, while bathing. On the 3rd November last, two Hindu women, while bathing, went out of their depth, and would have been drowned had not a boy, also bathing there, been daring enough to rescue them at the risk of his own life. The Port Commissioners should either make safer arrangements for bathers in Koyla Ghat, or prohibit them from bathing there.

SAMAY,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

50. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th November says that the non-official Chairman of a certain Municipality in the Presidency Division appointed a man for the Municipal dispensary at the recommendation of the Civil Surgeon of the district. The pay of this servant was not previously sanctioned in the Municipal budget, and the Commissioner of the Presidency Division required the Chairman to pay the man from his own pocket. The Chairman having replied that, under such circumstances, no individual would offer his services as a Municipal Chairman, the Commissioner decided that the pay of the servant should be paid by the Municipality, but in future no such expense would be sanctioned. An exactly similar case occurred some time ago in the Cossipore Municipality, but there the Chairman, who was a Government servant, could not venture to protest, and thinking discretion to be the better part of valour, paid the servant he had appointed from his own pocket. The Commissioner of the Presidency Division should in this case also ask the Municipality to refund the money of the Chairman.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

51. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th November has the following:—

The drainage circular. Sir Charles Elliott's rule is fast coming to a close, and he will not have the opportunity to see his favourite Drainage Act administered. He will have to leave the country before the Act comes to be enforced. This is a disappointment too much for Sir Charles Elliott, and so even at the close of his public career in India he has issued a circular to all Commissioners of Divisions in which he has forestalled the enforcement of the Drainage Act. In the case of any other man this would have been called a piece of downright impertinence. But Sir Charles Elliott is a great man, and no one can venture to apply to his conduct that disparaging epithet.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

On the 3rd August last, the Lieutenant-Governor had the Drainage Bill passed in the teeth of public opposition. He had the official majority on his side, and he treated the protest of the zamindars and the raiyats alike with contempt. From the time of its inception to the time when it was passed, the Bengal public presented a vigorous opposition to the Bill. They pointed out that Sir Charles Elliott was only riding his own hobby in insisting on the passing of the Bill—that the grounds on which it was based were not strong. It was a disputed question whether obstruction of drainage was the sole cause of malaria. Doctors differed in opinion on the subject, and often contradicted themselves. It was, moreover, urged that if the measure were applied to lands in Lower Bengal, it would injure cultivation. The zamindars proved that the Bill was an encroachment upon their rights, and a violation of the principles of the permanent settlement. The people humbly asked the Lieutenant-Governor not to impose a fresh tax on their overburdened shoulders. The Lieutenant-Governor heard all this, suited his tone to particular occasions, coaxed and threatened the people by turn, but did not change his policy. The louder was the public opposition, the more settled became his resolution. He hurried the Bill through the Council. It was passed. Sir Charles Elliott had some difficulty at first in framing the taxation sections of the Bill. It was a circuitous process to levy the tax only from those who were to derive the benefit, if any, from the working of the measure. That would take time. But Sir Charles Elliott had not the patience to wait—no, he had not even the opportunity to do so. And so it was resolved that the tax should be levied in the way in which the



road cess is levied. The landed classes alone were to bear the whole burden. While Peter will pay Paul will enjoy the benefit.

The law was passed, but it required the final sanction of the Governor-General in Council. This would require time. But Sir Charles had not a moment to lose. The days of his rule were numbered. And so he issued—before the Act had received the sanction of the Viceroy—a circular enjoining all Commissioners of Divisions to require all District Magistrates to be prepared to undertake drainage works as soon as the formal sanction of the Viceroy was given to the Act. In this circular the Magistrates are instructed to consult public opinion, and, as a beginning, to take up small and cheap works, leaving the larger and costlier ones to be taken up in future when the people will be reconciled to their lot. But anyhow the construction of drainage works must be pushed on without loss of time.

The circular proves two things. In the first place, it proves that the assurance that Sir Charles Elliott held out to the public, that no large and costly works would be undertaken, was intended only as a stop-gap to silence public opinion. In the second place, it proves that His Honour's assurance that the District Boards, and they alone, would determine what works are to be undertaken is a snare and a delusion. For in the circular the Magistrates are explicitly instructed to undertake and look after the construction of drainage works.

But Sir Charles, your days are numbered. You have very few days before you. Even if the Commissioners and Magistrates consult one another by wire and work with the speed of electricity, they will not be able to give you the opportunity of having the gratification of seeing your favourite measure in operation. The *Bijaya* music is playing, the goddess Durga is going to be consigned to the sacred waters of the Ganges. Is it not ridiculous that at such a moment *she* should wish to enjoy the *Mahastami* day sacrifice? If you were so anxious to see the working of your favourite measure, why did you not act with greater despatch before? There was none to save the Bengal people from your grasp.

DARSAN,  
Nov. 10th, 1895.

52. The *Darsak* of the 10th November has the following, with reference to the drainage circular of the Lieutenant-Governor:—

The drainage circular.

Why this indecent haste? Could not the Lieutenant-Governor wait for a few months more for the decision of the Governor-General in Council? There is little doubt that Lord Elgin will give his sanction to Sir Charles Elliott's Drainage Act; it is not expected that, like Lord Northbrook, he will have the courage to veto an Act passed by the Bengal Council. Still, out of deference to the Supreme Government, the Lieutenant-Governor ought to have patiently bided his time.

From the tone of the circular it is quite evident that the people of Bengal are soon going to be saddled with a new tax, which they will have to bear for a long time. This is the reason why the Lieutenant-Governor did not accept the amendments of the taxation sections of the Drainage Bill proposed by the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerji. The Lieutenant-Governor enjoins the subordinate officials to take up at first only such works as would not involve a heavy expenditure, and carry them to a successful termination. They are, however, at liberty to take up the costly works afterwards. This means that the Lieutenant-Governor is going to introduce the thin end of the wedge, so that the thick end may be driven afterwards. In his Dacca speech, as well as in his speech in the Legislative Council, the Lieutenant-Governor assured the public that the object of the Drainage Act was only to undertake cheap and small works of drainage. That assurance now proves worthless. The conduct of Sir Charles Elliott gives us a fresh proof of the truth of the old and worn-out adage—"Put not your trust in princes." It is not too much to say that the assurance of the Lieutenant-Governor was intended only as a stop-gap to silence the voice of the agitators.

If Sir Charles Elliott sincerely wished to promote the welfare of the people by improving the drainage system of the country, he ought to have made those who have obstructed it to pay the cost of constructing drainage works. It is admitted on all hands that the railways are mainly responsible for the obstruction of drainage. Babu Parbutty Charan Roy has incontestably proved this with facts and figures. But they have not been made to contribute a single farthing to the drainage fund.



The result of the Drainage Act will be this: the people will be overburdened with taxation, and they will not have the wherewithal to keep their body and soul together. The mortality in this country is to a large extent due to insufficient food. The people will have now smaller means of procuring it.

53. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 13th November observes that District Boards ought to construct drains at their own cost. When the road cess was imposed, the

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 13th, 1895.

The drainage question.

Duke of Argyll promised that a portion of it would be spent in improving the drainage system of the country. Although Sir Charles Elliott has defended his drainage policy, it is still a disputed question whether malaria is due to bad drainage. In his speech at the Medical Congress, Lord Elgin observed that there was no need of hurry in undertaking drainage works in the country. In giving his sanction to the Drainage Act, His Excellency has thus gone against his own opinion. He is a tool in the hands of his advisers.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

54. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th November complains that the opening of ticket stalls at the railway stations, only a short

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

Ticket-selling at railway stations.

time before a train starts, affords the ticket sellers opportunities of appropriating to themselves small changes which either the passengers forget to take back, or the ticket sellers forget to return in the hurry of the moment.

55. The *Sahachar* of the 6th November has heard that since the Rajabala case, the inferior Eurasian and European employes of the East Indian Railway have conceived a

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1895.

A railway case against a native employé.

grudge against the Bengalis. Recently some goods were stolen from the Madhupur station. One parcel clerk and some coolies were suspected, and charged with the crime. The case against them was conducted with some *zid*, but the parcel clerk was eventually discharged. The prosecution cost the Railway Company more than Rs. 3,000. Now, who is to render an account for this waste of money? Will the Consulting Engineer enquire into the affair?

56. A correspondent of the same paper, who with his family took a trip to the North-Western Provinces during the late

SAHACHAR.

Railway complaints.

holidays, complains of the oppressions which are committed by railway coolies at all stations. When they see a passenger travelling with his family, they demand exorbitant fees for carrying luggages, and they seem to have the secret support of the Railway Police. But pay a coolie what he demands, and he will, in collusion with luggage clerks, help you to carry luggage of a heavier weight than you pay for. The Railway Company certainly loses a large sum of money by this dishonesty on the part of their employes. The arrangement for supplying drinking water to passengers is also most unsatisfactory, and causes great hardship to third class passengers, specially in the hot season.

57. A correspondent of the *Eangavasi* of the 9th November enumerates some of the grievances of third class passengers, especially of those who travel by the mail trains on the East Indian Railway. There are no

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

Grievances of third class passengers on Indian railways.

satisfactory privy arrangements for third class passengers at the stations, and absolutely no such arrangements in the trains. There are no waiting-rooms for third class passengers at the stations, and they have to expose themselves at night. The mail trains on the East Indian Railway do not stop at Seorafully. This is a great hardship to passengers from Tarakesvar who have a mind to go up-country by the mail train. They have to go to Howrah or to Hooghly in order to catch the mail train. The less is said of the overcrowding in third class carriages, the better.

Sometimes even first and second class passengers have to suffer great hardship on the East Indian Railway. The first and second classes carriages are generally reserved, and all the seats are filled up at Howrah. But still first and second class tickets are issued at intermediate stations. Many gentlemen have thus to pay first and second class fares, but travel third class.



SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

58. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 9th November complains that the condition of roads in the mufassal is very bad. The road cess is generally misspent, and is not properly utilised in improving the condition of the village roads. The Deputy Magistrates go out touring in the mufassal during the winter, when the roads are dry and in good order. But during the rainy season these roads become practically impassable. The roads are badly made, badly metalled, and badly repaired by the contractors. There are overseers to superintend their work, but the contractors nevertheless appear to be quite independent of them, and have their own way in road-making. The Deputy Magistrates should be specially instructed to look after the making of the village roads.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 11th, 1895.

59. A correspondent of the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 11th November says that at the Sealdah station there are three separate platforms for trains for the different branches of the Eastern Bengal State Railway. This often puts intending passengers to great difficulty. Ignorant people cannot easily find out the particular train in which they should travel. The practice of detaching railway carriages at intermediate stations often brings about serious accidents. It is a standing source of danger to railway passengers, and should be at once discontinued.

(h)—General.

CHINSUR  
VARTAVAHA,  
Nov. 3rd, 1895.

60. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 3rd November understands that The Covenanted Indian Medical appointments in the Covenanted Indian Medical Service should no longer be held as guaranteed by successful candidates, and it will be at the discretion of the Secretary of State to appoint them or not to posts in the service. He will thus have the fullest liberty to show preference to the favoured individuals among the successful candidates. This is a piece of downright injustice to the Indian people. Young Indians go to England to study for the Indian Medical Service at great expense and trouble with the conviction that, if successful, they will secure lucrative posts in the service. They will now be sorely disappointed. That the black Indians should successfully compete with the Europeans is a thought unbearable to a native-hater. So an attempt has been made to prevent his entrance into the Covenanted Indian Medical Service. This makes the difference between the Indian and the European quite clear and transparent. It is, however, strange that this measure was being matured in secret without the people of India ever coming to know anything about it before it was sprung upon them. Measures like this make one sadly think of the Queen's proclamation and contrast the despotic doings of the officials with the promises made in the name of Her Gracious Majesty.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

61. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th November writes as follows:—  
The present administration of the country. The rigour of the administration is daily increasing, and is making the people discontented. Government knows this, but it declines to believe that the foundation of British rule in India rests upon the contentment of the people, and wants to govern the country with a strong hand. With this object it has, since the Sepoy Mutiny, been accumulating unlimited powers in its hands, has not given effect to the policy which was proclaimed after that catastrophe, has thoroughly reorganised the Military Department, making a recurrence of another mutiny impossible; and lastly, has deprived the native princes of all real power, reducing them to a condition worse than that of the commonest subject under British rule.

France, Russia, and England are always ready to step in between the Sultan of Turkey and his subjects, when the latter are oppressed. But who is there who can venture to interfere with any one of those Powers when it does anything wrong? It is true, during Muhammadan rule, when the people of India were oppressed beyond endurance, they called in foreigners to deliver them from the hands of their oppressors; but there is not the remotest chance of such a thing happening under British rule. The Indians know fully well that no other foreign Power will adopt towards them a more liberal policy



than the English have done. And they are wise enough not to wish to change their present masters, who, although they have trampled them under foot, have still enabled them to make immense progress in knowledge and civilization. The fact is that the English are not really strengthening themselves or promoting their real interests by following an iron policy in the government of India. The only result of their policy has been to turn the country into a vast field for the exercise of arbitrary powers by unruly, insolent, and despotic officials.

Government has certainly spared no pains to maintain its good name and the prestige of the administration. But it ought to have remembered that the prestige of the administration could not be maintained by merely concealing from public sight the defects which characterise it. In a word, the glory and good name of the British administration cannot be upheld so long as a single official is allowed to trample law and justice under foot with perfect impunity. It is not easy to conceal the weakness of a State in which officials find it possible to slight and violate without fear of punishment the rules and codes which are framed by its legislature.

It is probable that the present iron rule and official despotism is the result of high-handedness on the part of individual officials, for British statesmen have never supported the cowardly policy of oppressing a weak and powerless subject people. Even if this be so, it is the duty of Government to check the course of administration which makes internal weakness palpable, leads to the oppression of the weak, and demoralises the officials.

62. The *Sahachar* of the 6th November says that while the London *Times* is for attaching importance to the Indian Congress, now that it has existed for so many years, and advises the Government in this country to lend an attentive ear to its demands and to forbear giving cause of discontent to the people, the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has approvingly and triumphantly published the Presidency Commissioner's Annual Administration Report in which the latter showers unmeasured and unmerited abuse on native hakims, native civilians, and native zamindars. Sir Charles Elliott may deserve a farewell entertainment and address from the Muhammadan community as their benefactor, and especially for appointing a member of that community to a Small Cause Court Judgeship in Calcutta by forcibly retiring Babu Jadu Nath Rai, but he certainly does not deserve any ovation at the hands of the Hindus. As for the Governor-General, though he is a real well-wisher of the people of India, still he cannot, owing to his servile adherence to the views of his Secretaries and advisers in the Council, often do any good to the Indians. Though the country is in need of many works of the most pressing importance, His Excellency excuses himself from undertaking them on the ground of want of funds. The other day in his Agra speech, His Excellency hinted that such works might be accomplished by private enterprise and with private capital. It is evident, therefore, that while the subordinate officials are gaining unlimited power in this country, the governors themselves are losing their independence. But such was not always the case. It will be remembered that Sir John Peter Grant, only a provincial ruler, checked indigo oppressions in Bengal single-handed and by his unaided effort, though the entire Anglo-Indian community was opposed to him. But in later days, could Lord Ripon pass the Ilbert Bill in the face of the protest of the Anglo-Indian community? Who does not remember with what determination 'Clemency Canning' carried out his just and generous policy in connection with the Sepoy Mutiny; and how fearlessly he moved about among the rebels at night? But the state of things has undergone such a change since Lord Canning's time that many people in England now, owing to their fear of Russia, fear even the Amir of Afghanistan. Englishmen now fear even their Musalman subjects, and with a view to please them do not hesitate to dissatisfy the Hindus.

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1895

Indeed, the condition of the Indians is now really deplorable. The people of India are loyal to the British Government, and therefore repeatedly ask it to treat the various communities inhabiting the country with equal justice and without distinction or partiality. Such a policy will keep the entire population contented and loyal to British rule.



DARUSSALTANAT  
AND URDU GUIDE,  
Nov. 7th, 1895.

63. A correspondent of the *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 7th November says that the Magistrate of Purnea, who has only recently come to the district, must have been misled by the Babus under him into attributing the paucity of Muhammadan candidates for Government posts to inadequate education of the Purnea Musalmans. The fact is, that as the head Babus of the Government offices in the district fill all vacancies with their own relatives and protégés, repeated disappointment dissuades Musalmans from applying for such posts.

VIKRAMPUR,  
Nov. 7th, 1895.

Employment of Muhammadans  
in the Purnea district.

Mr. Skrine on the Indian's love  
of theatricals.

64. The *Vikrampur* of the 7th November says that if Mr. Skrine really thinks that he can keep the people of India contented by merely entertaining them with innocent amusements, like *nautches*, theatrical performances, athletic sports, &c., then he must have no better opinion of the people of India than he has of the inhabitants of certain islands in the Pacific Ocean. But did not Mr. Skrine at one time have a quarrel with the people of Bhagalpur, because he had invited a theatrical company to give their performances there? And does not the fact of this quarrel prove that the people of India are better than mere children, who alone can be pleased by empty shows? A very grand discovery indeed that Mr. Skrine has made! But what are the people of India doomed to hear next?

VIKRAMPUR.

65. The same paper complains that letters posted at Dacca, which used formerly to be delivered at Lauhajangha on the second day, are not now delivered there till the third day after posting. Letters from Calcutta, however, reach Lauhajangha in two days. The Deputy Postmaster-General of East Bengal ought to enquire into this anomaly.

SULABH DAINIK  
Nov. 7th, 1895.

The proposed tax on betel-nut.

66. Referring to Mr. Luttmann-Johnson's recommendation that betel-nut trees should, like the toddy-yielding trees, be taxed, the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 7th November observes that the reasoning of the Commissioner of the Dacca Division is no better than raving, and it seems that his mind is not in good order. Toddy is intoxicating, but is betel-nut so? The Dacca Commissioner is wrong in thinking that betel-nut is used as an article of luxury by the people of this country. It is an article of every-day consumption, and is to the people of this country an article of great necessity. Mr. Luttmann-Johnson's remarks betray a lamentable ignorance of the manner, customs, and habits of the Indian people, and yet it is such remarks that find a place in official reports.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

The result of the last Civil  
Service Examination.

67. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th November says that the result of the Civil Service Examination this year is quite alarming for the natives of India. Only one Indian has passed this year, against six in the last. It cannot be that the Indian candidates suddenly became dull by some enchanter's spell. Nor were the batch of candidates who presented themselves for examination this time inferior to former batches. The writer can testify to this from a personal knowledge of many of the candidates. Has, then, any new order been passed by the Secretary of State? Or was there any disagreement between the Civil Service Commissioners. We do not object to the difficulty of the test. We only want that English and native candidates should be equally treated. Is it not an injustice to the native candidates to require them to pass an examination, for service in their own country, thousands of miles away from home? A strong agitation should be made for simultaneous examinations being held in England and India.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

The highly paid European  
officials in India.

68. Years ago, observes the *Sanjivani* of the 9th November, Englishmen coming to India had to consider themselves self-exiled, and their return to their country was uncertain. Those days are gone. Steam and electricity have, so to speak, annihilated distance. An Englishman then took six months to reach England. He now takes only three weeks. Those days and these are as poles asunder. In those days high pay had to be given to an Englishman as a sufficient inducement and attraction for his coming to India. In these days there is no such necessity. Englishmen are now anxious to come to India to serve the Government. Of the candidates who have lately passed the Indian Civil Service Examination, three had also passed the English Civil Service



Examination. But instead of accepting service at home they have chosen to accept service in India. This being the case, why should it be still considered necessary to pay a high salary to an English official, and over and above this to grant him a compensation allowance? The English official in India draws a high salary, but still he frets and murmurs when he is made to pay income-tax. While the English officials in India are, so to speak, fleecing the people, the people of the British Colonies are proposing to reduce the salaries of the English officials there. In India the pay of English officials is being gradually raised, while in the Colonies their pay is being reduced. Is this British justice?

69. A Rawalpindi correspondent of the same paper writes that the Commissariat Office at Rawalpindi is generally filled by Eurasians, and natives are employed only when no Eurasian is to be had. The Eurasian clerks dressed in brief authority are overbearing in their conduct towards their native subordinates. A few days ago, the Senior Supervisor of the Commissariat Office very uncourtously reproved his native assistants, so much so that many of them have resolved to resign their posts. The native clerks have to work from 9-30 A.M. to 7-30 P.M. But still their office Superintendents are not satisfied, and the latter do not even hesitate to dismiss a native clerk in order to make room for a Eurasian.

70. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th November observes that the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling says in his judgment in the Darjeeling grievous hurt case that *kukris* should come under the purview of the Arms Act. By parity of reasoning, *dao* and fish-knife, too, should come under the scope of that Act, and fish should be sent to the Magistrates to be dressed. All these make the people lose their confidence in British rule.

71. The same paper observes that many Government pensioners, who are Hindus and live in retirement at Benares, feel it a great inconvenience to go to the local treasury to draw their pensions. They have petitioned the Government, praying that it will be kind enough to order their pension to be sent to them by post. Military pensions are paid by post, and the Government will confer a boon on its old Hindu servants by paying their pension through that agency.

72. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 10th November cannot support the proposal to reduce the salt duty, but considers it the height of cruelty to punish poor men for illicit manufacture of salt who prepare small quantities only for domestic consumption. Men who illicitly manufacture large quantities for purposes of trade ought alone to be punished.

73. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 12th November understands that it has been proposed to fix the maximum amount of commission payable to a Rural Sub-Registrar at Rs. 150. This will be a great injustice to a hard-working class of public officers. Instead of paying a commission to the Sub-Registrars as at present, they should be granted monthly salaries, and the graded system should be introduced. At present the Sub-Registrars have to remit Government money to the treasury at their own cost. This is preposterous, and this objectionable practice should be discontinued. The Sub-Registrars should also be allowed sufficient means to keep the public money in safe custody. At present this is not the case.

74. The same paper complains that the tahsildars of Government *khas* mahals are not allowed travelling allowance. This is a real hardship to a class of hard-working public servants. The pay of the tahsildar is small, and it is simply impossible for him to defray his travelling expenses out of the pittance of a pay he draws.

75. Referring to the Viceroy's speech in reply to the address of the Puna Municipality, the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 13th November observes that it is not characterized by that calmness, dignity and amiability which one would like to see in the speech of an official of the Viceroy's position. Whether this drawback in Lord Elgin's Puna speech was due to his nature, to his comparatively young age, or to his want of tact in preparing a speech worthy of the occasion, no one can

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

BANGAVASI.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 10th, 1895.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 12th, 1895.

SULABH DAINIK.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 13th, 1895.



tell. Lord Lansdowne's speeches were the reflex of his high-toned policy. In Lord Dufferin's speeches severity was tempered by amiability. But Lord Ripon's were model speeches. There is a good deal of difference between the speeches of Lord Elgin and the speeches of Lord Ripon. Lord Ripon's speeches were the reflex of the inner man—the overflowing of a gentle, amiable and generous heart. Even where he had to differ from the opinion of another, he tried to convince him mildly by his arguments. He was never severe, never out of temper. But Lord Elgin, notwithstanding his studied cautiousness in speech, gives proof of his impatience. His Puna speech has not satisfied the public. It has not disappointed them because they did not expect to see him acquit himself better—they did not expect him to speak like Lord Ripon. Lord Elgin's reference to municipal administration will not be palatable to many. His opinion on the land revenue administration will not be universally accepted. It is not obligatory on the Viceroy to defend the official policy in season and out of season. His Excellency advised all public associations not to refer to disputed questions in their addresses. Lord Ripon would not have done this. In all disputed questions the best thing to do is to wait for the final decision of the Government. In the meantime the public is at liberty to speak on and about them. In his speech Lord Elgin did not forget to defend the official policy regarding the Hindu-Musalman riots.

The object of official tours is to gauge public opinion—to invite it and study it closely. An official, however high his position, should treat the public with courtesy, with open-hearted generosity. Lord Elgin has failed to do this. He acts as he is advised. He has almost become a tool in the hands of his advisers.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 1st, 1895.

76. The only effect of passing the Legal Practitioners' Act Amendment Bill, says the *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st November, will be that *dáláls* will not enter the Court premises, but will carry on their business outside its precincts.

It will be a good thing if law-touting can be checked, but the pleaders and mukhtars are dissatisfied with the Bill, because it proposes to vest in the District Judges and Divisional Commissioners the power of suspending or removing from practice any pleader or mukhtar who deals with a *dálál*, and because it throws on the accused pleader or mukhtar the burden of proving that the man with whom he has dealt is not a *dálál*. The latter will be a unique provision of the law. It will be requiring an accused person to prove his innocence, and not the prosecutor to prove his guilt. But this is nothing strange. The pleaders and mukhtars have become a thorn in the side of the Government on account of their independence and their taking the lead in every social and political movement. If these men can be brought under control, Government will have nothing more to fear.

CHINSURA  
VARTAVAHA,  
Nov. 3rd, 1895.

77. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 3rd November regrets to observe that the Viceroy has given his assent to the Drainage Act passed by the Bengal Council. It was expected that Lord Elgin would not give his sanction to the measure which was passed in the teeth of public opposition. But that hope has been sorely disappointed, and the cry of the people has been a cry in the wilderness.

CHINSURA  
VARTAVAHA.

78. The same paper observes that under the existing building law, the privacy of the *zanana* of a poor man cannot be maintained if he happens to live close by the palace of a rich neighbour. The rich man does not care for the privacy of his poor neighbour's *zanana*, and erects windows in his own house facing the compound of the latter, who has not the power to check him or the means to bring him to justice. The privacy of their *zanana* is dear to the Hindus and Musalmans, and a law should be passed for the better maintenance of this privacy.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

79. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th November writes as follows:—

Sir Charles Elliott believes that in the Drainage Act he has hit upon an infallible remedy for malarial fever. But examples are not wanting in which remedies, which are advertised as infallible, completely fail of their boasted effect and prove positively



dangerous in the use. The pæan of the Drainage Act, to our belief, will be written on Bengal's forehead with the dry bones of its inhabitants groaning under the burden of taxation. Sir Charles is sorry that he will not be himself able to give effect to the Act. But he has partially satisfied himself by directing officials to pay their best attention to the measure. There is, therefore, little doubt that the officials will do their best to cure the people of Bengal of malarial fever by the application of the provisions of the new law. They will thus have a good deal of additional work thrown upon them. The Engineering Department, in particular, will be incessantly working; and the extraordinary demand for spades and other digging implements will bring to the blacksmith a season of unprecedented prosperity. But the work of excavating canals and drains in the sandy soil of Bengal will prove as infructuous as the labour of Sisyphus.

Babu Parvati Charan Rai has clearly demonstrated in *India* that the unhealthiness of Bengal can be to a great extent removed by constructing a sufficient number of culverts across all roads and railroads which have obstructed the drainage of the province. Canals, too, are, according to Parvati Babu, a source of unhealthiness, because they make the adjoining soil damp. The District Boards can do much towards improving the health of the people by constructing culverts across roads, and by making provision in all places for a good water-supply for drinking purposes. But the railway authorities, who form part and parcel of the governing power in the country, are not disposed to do anything in the matter of these culverts.

Sir Charles Elliott has disregarded the representations of the press on the Drainage Bill, and will only see his mistake when on his retirement on England he will hear that the new law has failed to remove malaria from Bengal.

80. The same paper continues as follows:—

Sir Charles Elliott's drainage circular. His anxiety to give effect to the Drainage Act as soon as the Viceroy's signature is put to it, has led Sir Charles Elliott to issue a circular to all

Divisional Commissioners, requiring them to draw up schemes for bringing the Act into operation. His Honour is at least to be thanked for his advice that only those works should be first taken up whose results will be certain and which will not require large expenditure. When His Honour is for proceeding so cautiously, would he not have acted in a more statesmanlike manner if he had first made arrangements for the supply of drinking water, and if that failed to improve the health of the people, then undertaken the construction of drainage works? But it is to be feared that more ambitious and costly projects will be taken in hand as soon as it is found that the minor works which have been proposed have failed to produce any effect. And the drainage mania will not cease until the last drop of blood has been sucked out of the poor tax-payer.

81. It was a foregone conclusion, says the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 10th November, that the Drainage Act would receive the assent of the Viceroy, and that the memorial of the British Indian Association against the measure would avail nothing. The Lieutenant-Governor's reply to the memorial contains not a single new argument in favour of the Act which has not been cited a thousand times since the inception of the measure. The arguments against the Act contained in the memorial have simply been pooh-poohed. A proper balancing of the arguments on both sides and a right decision in a case like this is not possible except in a law court. The Viceroy was from administrative considerations bound to accept the arguments offered by the Lieutenant-Governor. The policy of administration which is in vogue now-a-days leaves His Excellency no choice but to support the provincial Governments in any quarrel between them and the subject people. Not to speak of the passing of the Drainage Act, the Supreme Government now-a-days supports acts of provincial Governments which are glaring instances of oppression and injustice.

The Lieutenant-Governor has thrown the whole responsibility of the Act on Babu Surendranath, who, though he advocated the measure at its inception, ate the humble pie by withdrawing his support at the last stage of the Bill. In fact, Babu Surendranath has at last been found out both by his countrymen and by Government. And the latter, though it does not admit him as the representative of the people on other occasions, has been glad to recognise him

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 5th, 1895.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHA  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 10th, 1895.



as such, in order that he may be made the butt upon which popular discontent will spend its force.

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

82. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 8th November understands that the Maharaja of Kapurtala contemplates paying a visit to Paris, and has set apart three lakhs of rupees for this purpose.

The Maharaja of Kapurtala.

No one will be sorry to see such a ruler deprived of his State. The palace of the Maharaja is lighted by electricity, but the public thoroughfares in his State are not lighted at night. The Maharaja, it is said, has lately appointed a State Council, of which he is the President. But if he is going away, who is to preside over the meetings of the Council? In going to Europe the Maharaja must first of all get the consent of the Resident. Has he got that consent? Probably he has got it. But the question is, what pleasure will he derive by going to Europe? Has a Native Chief any happiness, has he any occasion to enjoy himself? A cooly has greater freedom and happiness than a Maharaja. The latter is a tool in the hands of the Resident. His hands and feet are tied. And it is no exaggeration to say that he cannot even make bold to visit his zanana without the consent of the Resident. If the Maharaja of Kapurtala has at all to seek pleasure, let him seek spiritual happiness, and meekly pray that he may not have again to come to the world as a Native Chief of India.

SAMAY,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

83. It is a shame to the civilised British Government, observes the *Samay* of the 8th November, that it should encourage the

The drink question in Cashmere.

drink traffic and thereby encourage intemperance in the country. Drinking was unknown in Burma before it came under the British administration, but since the latter has taken charge of its Government, the vice is spreading throughout the country, and liquor shops are being opened everywhere. This is also the case with Cashmere. That State is now practically under British rule, and since it has come under the sway of the British Government, the traffic in drink has made very rapid progress there. The Maharaja of Cashmere was deprived of his administrative powers on the ground that the Cashmere people under his rule were in a very abject condition. They are now making progress with a vengeance under British rule. The Indian public were so long in the habit of thinking that the British Government had settled itself in Cashmere with the object of keeping a vigilant eye over the North-Western frontier. Are they to understand that it has another object in view, viz., that of enriching British merchants by giving them free permission to carry on a brisk traffic in liquor in Cashmere?

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 1st, 1895.

84. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st November says that scarcity will certainly be felt in the Bankura district this year, as the scanty rainfall has seriously interfered with the paddy crop in most places. Portions of

Public health and crop prospects in the Bankura district.

the district near Burdwan, namely, Indas, Kotulpur, Vishnupur, &c., are suffering from malaria, cholera, or small-pox. The Sanitary Commissioner ought to visit these places and provide for their sanitary improvement. It will not do to sit in Calcutta and merely legislate for the sanitary drainage of the mufassal.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 1st, 1895.

85. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 1st November reports the following cooly cases:—

Cooly cases.

- (1) One Mokunda Bid, an inhabitant of Kulkuti in Saltara, in the Bankura district, went to make purchases in Raniganj. After having made the purchases, he sent the things home by a cooly, but himself went into a cooly depôt and has not been heard of since.
- (2) One Durgacharan Majhi and his wife, residents of some village near Raipur in the Bankura district, were, on the 8th October last, enticed away into a cooly depôt at Khatea in the same district. The man and his wife on being brought near the depôt realised



their position and refused to enter it, but were forced to do so by two durwans belonging to the depôt, named Ramsebak Dobay and Gokulprasad Chobay. They were confined during the night in a room. On the following morning Durgacharan requesting to be released that he might answer a call of nature, was taken under proper guard to the bank of a khal, when, availing himself of the opportunity he effected his escape and took shelter with some kind-hearted Sonthals. The latter also released the woman from the depôt. A head-constable first investigated the case, and reported it to be false. But the Police Inspector, Babu Hiralal Singh, suspecting dishonesty on the part of the head-constable, took up the investigation himself and has sent up the case for trial.

- (3) Madhusadan Rai, ghatwal of Jhare within the jurisdiction of the Barajora thana, in the Bankura district, enticed away one Kandan Khairani with professions of love, took her to Goalundo, and there left her as a cooly. The woman has left behind her a boy aged four years, and he is not willing to proceed to Assam.
- (4) Kinu Hari, chaukidar of Hatgram in the Bankura district, has been missing for some time. On some previous occasions he, in collusion with an arkati, registered himself as a cooly, and then fled away, and participated in the profits of the recruiter. Probably this time he could not make his escape and has been sent up to Assam. At any rate, the authorities should order an enquiry into Kinu's fate.

86. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 3rd November has the following:—

The British Government in India. It is a great misfortune to the Indian people that they should be considered disloyal by the British Government. It is no secret that that Government has no confidence in their loyalty, and this is the reason why it has disarmed the whole Indian population. The people are being made to feel more and more keenly the severity of British rule, and the rulers are gradually taking more to a policy of rigorous government than to a policy of sound and beneficent administration. It seems to be their object to keep the people in awe rather than to inspire them with love and respect.

This is exactly the view taken by the Rev. W. Bonnar in his article in the current number of the *Contemporary Review*. He repeatedly observes in that article that Englishmen in India have, as a class, not a particle of sympathy with the Indian people. This is a statement the truth of which is patent to all. The English have been in this country for the last two hundred years, but during this long period they have not learnt to sympathise with the subject-people. They treat us with contempt and not with kindness. And this feeling of contempt is growing with years. It is because Englishmen hate and distrust us that they so strongly and unsympathetically criticise our conduct. They regard every footstep of ours with suspicion, and the whole English community in India, from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas, is agitated and thrown into excitement if an arrant school-boy is found throwing brickbats at a police constable. The English have conquered the Indian people, but have not yet been able to conquer their hearts. But the English Government in India will not be strengthened so long as it is not broad based on the hearts of the Indian people. But once the hearts of the people are won, that Government will stand as a mighty bulwark against the invasion of a foreign foe.

But the fact is that the British Government has kept the people down, so speak, with their hands and feet tied; they have been made utterly helpless. The British Government is ever on the rack of suspicion, and fears that the people may rebel against it any day they like. With the object of guarding against this suspected revolt of the Indian people, it has passed the Arms Act, which is administered with unprecedented rigour and severity. No Indian is allowed to keep even a rusty sword without a license. But this is not all. The suspicion of the British Government, is carried still further. The people are not safe even in giving vent to their feelings in the newspapers. To speak out one's mind freely is to create disaffection. On this excuse the *Bangavasi* was prosecuted by the Government. It is ever in suspicion, ever in

CHINSURA  
VARTABAHA,  
Nov. 3rd, 1895.



fear. It smells conspiracy everywhere, and has engaged spies and secret emissaries to detect conspirators and creators of disaffection among the people.

But the English Government is entirely in the wrong. The Indian people do not, and cannot, desire the overthrow of the British rule. It is their interest to see it strengthened and firmly established. If the English were to make up their mind to leave India, bag and baggage, to-morrow, the people would supplicate them with folded hands not to do so—not to leave them, helpless as they are, to themselves. For, if the English were to leave India tomorrow, the next day the Indian people would find it impossible to protect themselves even against the attacks of mad jackals and wild cats—so helpless have they been made under the British rule. The Indian people have lost their strength and vitality, their society is fast running into dissolution. If at this moment the English were to leave the Indians to themselves they would sink deeper and deeper into the depths of ruin and degradation. Every Indian knows this very well, and because he knows this he cannot wish the British Government ill. It is his sincere wish that the English should continue to rule in India.

There is, moreover, no reason why the British Government should suspect the Indian people. They have not the power to do it the least injury. They have forgotten the use of arms. There is no unity among them, and they cannot unite even for a moment. They are but helpless tools in the hands of the British Government—as dead and inert as wooden dolls. They have no self-help, no self-reliance. It is no exaggeration to say that there are no *men* in India, and all who live in it are women. The people of India are virtually dead.

Why, then, this infliction of wounds on a dead body? why this setting of cannon to kill a mosquito—this setting in motion the whole strength of the lion to crush a mouse? The powerful British Government should not treat the weak Indian people with severity. There is no need of increasing the severity of the administration in India. If the English could enter into and see the hearts of the Indian people, they would find nothing there to give them cause for suspicion. The Indian people are not an object of suspicion, but of pity, of kindness. It is the duty of the British Government to train, to educate this people who depend upon it for support and protection. When will the British Government come to discover its error and realise this important truth?

CHINSURA  
VARTABABA,  
Nov. 3rd, 1895.

87. The same paper understands that the Muhammadan Association and the Muhammadan Literary Society will entertain Sir Charles Elliott with dinners on the eve of his retirement. Sir Charles Elliott has always favoured the Musalmans, and it is only natural that they should do him honour on the occasion of his retiring from office. It is, however, a matter of regret that Raja Binaya Krishna and Babu Binod Behari Mallik should intend taking part in the movement. Raja Binaya Krishna must have some interest in servilely flattering Sir Charles, the staunchest upholder of official jobbery.

SOMPRAKASH,  
Nov. 4th, 1895.

88. The *Som Prakash* of the 4th November says that though the bulk of the population in India are actually starving from day to day or are living on insufficient meals, the authorities consider them to be in prosperous circumstances and impose tax after tax upon them. No matter whether the subjects have enough to eat or not, they must regularly and punctually pay the taxes. Remission of taxes is a thing not known under British rule. The other day Lord George Hamilton dwelt upon the happy and prosperous condition of the people of this country. A happy production of Lord Hamilton's brain! How, indeed, can a people living under the powerful and civilized British Government be otherwise than in affluent circumstances? Woe to the people of India that they do not enjoy even the sympathy of their rulers in these their hard days!

SOMPRAKASH.

89. A Purulia correspondent of the same paper says that recently one morning as he was taking a walk with the Deputy Magistrate of the place, Babu Upendra Chandra Mukherji, an old man came crying to the latter and complained that his wife had been forcibly taken away by cooly recruiters. The Deputy Magistrate kindly promised to enquire into the case.

Cooly recruitment in Manbhum.



The cooly-recruitment scare has filled the people of, Manbham with such alarm that a common raiyat will by no means enter a gentleman's house, fearing lest the house be a cooly depôt. It is also said that recruiters themselves falsely personate coolies, and having thus got themselves registered, forcibly carry-away the persons whom they personated.

90. The *Charu Mihir* of the 5th November writes as follows :—

Government strengthened by disagreements among the Indian communities.

The conflicting interests of the various communities which reside in India are the principal cause of its political degeneration. Half a century ago the Indian people were not divided by so many conflicting interests. Politically, the European residents were then sincere friends and teachers of the people. But in course of time, and under the influence of English education, the latter began to compare their condition with that of the nations of Europe, and feel their position of dependence. Their eyes were opened. But unfortunately from this moment they lost the sympathy and friendship of their political friends and teachers—the European community. The Europeans came to feel that their interests could never be identical with the interests of the people. From this time, the difference between the two communities went on increasing, until now the European community looks upon the native community as its political rival. It is this feeling of jealousy and rivalry awakened in the mind of the European residents that has stood in the way of India's political regeneration. If the Anglo-Indians had joined in every political movement set on foot by the people of India, the administration of the country would have been conducted on a very different line from that on which it is now carried on. Indeed, this difference between the two communities has paved the way for the present vicious system of administration and enables Government to pass laws conceived in an illiberal spirit. The controversies over the Jury notification and the Cotton Duties Bill show how powerful and effective Indian agitation may become if it is joined by the European residents of the country.

The quarrels between Hindus and Musalmans have become an additional source of strength to Government. The Muhammadans unfortunately are not making a common cause with the Hindus in politics, forgetting that the interests of the two communities cannot but be identical. Deluded by Government's patronage, and following the secret advice of certain officials, they hold themselves aloof from all political agitation which the Hindus set on foot. They believe that any improvement in the condition of the Hindus will militate against their interests, and have accordingly, even at the risk of injuring their own cause, assumed a hostile attitude towards the Hindu community.

Political agitation in this country will produce no effect so long as the Hindu, Musalman and European residents do not unite and make a common cause among themselves. It is true the Anglo-Indians are not permanent residents of the country, but their interests are identical with those of the people. Nor is it impossible for the three communities to combine for the protection of their political rights and privileges. The narrow-minded policy which Government is now following in the administration of the country cannot be altered until the three communities make a united stand against it. The existence of differences between these communities is only strengthening the hands of Government, and makes it possible for it to adopt a system of administration which is for the good of not one of them.

91. Referring to Mr. Cooke's remark in his last Annual Administration

Uriyas and the anti-kine-killing movement.

Report that the Uriyas, who are a loyal people, having perceived that the real object of the *gorakshini sabhas* was political agitation, kept themselves aloof from the movement, the *Sahachar* of the 6th November observes that it is the Uriyas and high officials alone who seem to have realised the real object of the anti-kine-killing movement. All praise to the sagacity of Uriyas and high officials!

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1895.

92. Referring to the Rev. Mr. Bonnar's article in the *Contemporary Review* entitled "The British in India," the same paper

The Rev. Mr. Bonnar's article in the *Contemporary Review*.

says that though the English treat the natives with contempt, it is not true, as Mr. Bonnar supposes, that the Indians will not help the British Government when it will have to fight

SAHACHAR.



against a foreign invader. In spite of the bad treatment they receive at the hands of their rulers, the Indians are sincerely and devotedly loyal to Her Majesty's Government, and will risk their lives for rendering it any service that may be required of them. However, better terms ought to exist, as Mr. Bonnar suggests, between the rulers and the ruled, for that will enable both to live much more happily than they do at present.

SAHAOGAR,  
Nov. 6th, 1895.

Growing unhealthiness of Madhupur on the East Indian Railway.

93. The same paper has heard that cholera has broken out in Madhupur, a station on the East Indian Railway which is used as a sanitarium by a large number of Calcutta people, and which contains a rest-camp for the troops. The healthiness of the place has been on the wane for many years because, though it has steadily increased in population, its sanitation has been little attended to by the authorities. There are no good roads and the few drains which exist are in a most filthy condition. Filth and sweepings are never removed from the roads.

VIKRAMPUR,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

94. The *Vikrampur* of the 7th November agrees with the Puna Congressists who are objecting to the Social Conference being held in connection with the Congress, and

says that if the Congress wants to enlist the support and sympathy of every community inhabiting this vast peninsula, it should eliminate from its programme all subjects on which people of all communities are not unanimous. If the Hindus had not treated the Congress with forbearance, its name would have disappeared from India the day it supported the Consent Bill, and thereby wounded Hindu feeling.

One way in which the Congress can grow more powerful and make itself more useful to the country is to make the programme of its work embrace questions connected with the industries and commerce of India. It ought to invite to its sittings a commercial and industrial representative from every place which sends political delegates to them. Arrangements can be easily made with these representatives to exhibit at the Congress articles which are manufactured in their respective districts, and steps can be taken to secure a market for these articles throughout the country. An industrial exhibition like this and an account of the exhibits annexed to the Congress report will be a good advertisement for indigenous manufactures. An industrial exhibition like this would enlist for the Congress the support and sympathy of many people; for instance, of European merchants and manufacturers in this country, who at present keep themselves aloof from the movement.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 7th, 1895.

Lord Elgin's Gwalior speech.

95. Lord Elgin, says the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 7th November, distinctly gave out in his Gwalior speech that he would not resign his post, but serve out the whole term of his office. The post of Viceroy and Governor-General of India is the most lucrative and comfortable post in the whole world. The Viceroy's honour, dignity, prestige and influence are great. It is true that the Conservative party—the party in opposition to that to which Lord Elgin belongs—has come in to power. But what of that? Lord Elgin is not a fool that he should give up a lucrative post simply for the sake of party considerations. Lord Elgin's announcement is, however, reassuring to the Indian public. In the event of Lord Elgin resigning his post, Lord Harris had the best chance of becoming the Viceroy and Governor-General of India. That undesirable contingency has been avoided. Whatever he may be, Lord Elgin is no doubt a far better man than Lord Harris.

From Lord Elgin's Gwalior speech it is quite clear that the getting up of a speech is an infliction on the Indian officials. Their speeches are generally stale and flat and devoid of interest to the public. All questions of public importance are studiously eschewed in them. It requires a good deal of practice to get up such speeches.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

India's poverty.

96. The future of India, says the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 8th November, is very gloomy. The days of happiness are gone, and there is now nothing but darkness within and darkness without. India is in the agony of death, and her last days are fast approaching. The day is not far distant when the whole country will be turned into a vast cemetery where nothing will be heard but the cry of jackals and birds which live upon dead bodies. But this catastrophe—the financial ruin



of India—may be prevented if the Government but yet comes to realise the magnitude of the danger ahead and makes provision accordingly. But that is not to be. The English officials have come to this country to make their fortunes, and they have no interest to think of the future of India. Oftentimes the Government demands from the people 75 per cent. of their income in the shape of taxes. The people are fairly ground down by taxation, starvation and diseases. And one has no hesitation to say, with Mr. Wilson, that the last days of India are near.

97. The *Hitavadi* of the 8th November will be glad to see Sir Comer Petheram appointed as a Privy Council Judge. He is held in great respect by the people of this country.

HITAVADI  
Nov. 8th, 1895.

98. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th November has the following in a sarcastic article on the Congress:—

The *Bangavasi's* view of the Congress.

There are a number of Englishmen who, engrossed with party politics as they are, have yet time enough to indulge themselves in philanthropical thoughts. It is no wonder, therefore, that the thought of India and the Indian people should engage their attention, knowing, as they fully do, that in India's welfare consists also the welfare of England, and that India is the richest gem in the crown of the British Sovereign. These men are by the Indian press dubbed "friends of India." We have no objection to the expression, and it is our firm conviction that the so-called Indian National Congress is nothing more or less than a making of these "friends" of the Indian people.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 9th, 1895.

Now-a-days many of us have received, and are receiving, a 'high' English education. English history and literature have taught us that liberty is the one thing needful, and that subjection is a curse. And at once we, the English-educated, demand that the English Government should appoint us to all the high posts in the public service and let Englishmen leave this country, bag and baggage, and seek fresh fields and pastures new. And as soon as we secure all the posts in the public service we become free; for freedom consists in securing high posts in the public service. We also demand a share in the administration of the country, and ask the Government to let us have an entrance into its Council chambers, so that we may acquaint ourselves with its secrets and afterwards proclaim them from house-tops. In short, we demand that the British people should entrust into our hands the internal administration of the country, while they themselves should be satisfied with silently watching over our doings. Like the household idol in a Hindu family, the Government should remain idle and calmly look on, satisfied with its small share of prerogatives, while we shall go on managing the affairs of the country. Now, we make all these demands, not in private, but publicly—with the beat of drum and the flourish of trumpet—in newspapers and public meetings—in season and out of season—with or without rhyme or reason. We have no strength in our body, we have absolutely no strength of mind, but we have concentrated our whole force in our tongue, which we go on plying, and we know no rest. But the beauty of the whole thing is that although we make so many monstrous demands, we have to make them in a suppliant mood. And there we have to curb our restless tongue.

Now, the "friends of India," to whom we have already referred, are very shrewd men and know which way the wind blows. Lest through the discontent of the people India be ever lost to England, they are trying to cast their net of 'sincere friendship' wide in this country. They have taken a select few of the most advanced of the English-educated Indians into their confidence. And patting them on the back, they say—"Bravo! my dear boys. Bravo!" We liberal and philanthropic Englishmen cannot bear the sight of human misery, and we have resolved to redress your grievances. So do what we say and the millennium will come. It is we alone that know how to please all parties—without doing harm to any. We, the English people, only want the spread of commerce and the extension of territories. You, the English-educated Indians, want liberty and employment in the public service. So let us make a bargain. You hold Congress meetings and agitate and we make money.



We need not tell the public over and over again that we are not in the secret of the Congress, nor like to be initiated into its mysteries. Politics is a subject too high for us, and we do not like to dabble in it. This we know, that the English are for the present our masters and the sole arbiters of our destiny. Let the rulers look after our welfare. We need not trouble our head about it. The English missionaries have kindly taken charge of our spiritual welfare, the English merchants of our material prosperity, and the English officials of our worldly wants and grievances. There is thus a combination of ধর্ম (religion), অর্থ (wealth) and কাম (worldly desires), and our মোক্ষ, i.e. salvation, is near at hand. Every Englishman thus is our "friend;" why should we make any invidious distinction between Englishman and Englishman?

There is something more which the "friends of India" tell their Indian admirers to do. They say in a patronising tone—"You, the English-educated Indians, are no doubt very able men, but still you are half-civilised, you are barbarians—your ancestors were barbarians. You have not emancipated your women, you marry your daughters at an early age, and do not let them taste the sweets of courtship. You have these and many other drawbacks, so try to be civilised, gird up your loins and set about reforming your society in right earnest, and in the meantime we try to accomplish our own ends. Without social reform no political reform is possible. To your 'National Congress,' therefore, add a tail and call it 'Social Conference.'"

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR.  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 12th, 1895.

99. Mr. Stead, observes the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 12th November, says in his *Review of Reviews* that the unnatural offence of which Oscar Wilde was convicted is very much prevalent among the students of the Eton, Harrow, and Rugby Colleges. This is the state of academical discipline and morality in England, and yet Sir Charles Elliott and Anglo-Indians of his type would belittle the morals of the Indian students in comparison with those of their English brethren.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

*Offg. Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 16th November 1895.